ISBN4-592-13344-7

C9979 ¥505E

9784592133445

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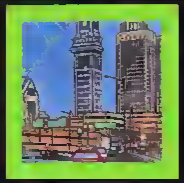
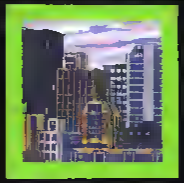


Dazzling reflection never melt a frozen mind.



Another day has passed with the setting sun.

The survived one is the winner of the game.

The serial killer still gazes with icy eyes.

An old home place never changes in one's mind

A steel blue beast is waiting to be triggered.

羅川真里茂の本
白泉社　大好評発売中

✦花とゆめコミックス
赤ちゃんと僕　全18巻
いつでもお天気気分　1・2巻
✦ジェッツコミックス
ニューヨーク・ニューヨーク　全4巻

カードギャラリー・羅川真里茂
カードギャラリー・羅川真里茂2
画集・赤ちゃんと僕
　［おもちゃ箱ひっくりかえした］
画集・赤ちゃんと僕2
　［クリームいっぱいのケーキ］

cover design
AKIHIKO YAMADA

N.Y.N.Y.

Kain Walker was a policeman in the New York City Police. He was 25-year-old guy from Newton, Mass. He was born on December 18. Blood type, O. He was a gay. After work, he always stopped at a bar in the gay street in Manhattan. He picked up one night lover there only for having sex. It was his principle not to pick one as a steady. But on one evening, Kain met up with Mel Frederics at the bar. Mel was 23-year-old from Manhattan, NY. He was born on May 29. Blood type, A. He worked for a coffee shop as a waiter. Both his parents had gone when he was a little boy and he had spent the unhappy days during his boyhood. So he was afraid of having his own family but he was longing for it at the same time. This was destiny, this encounter of two guys, Kain and Mel. They had to go though several misunderstandings, before, gradually, they found that they love each other strongly. Soon after, they decided to live together. One day, however, a tragedy fell upon Mel. He was kidnaped by a serial killer Joei, who aims only blond persons because of a traumatic experience in his childhood. Kaio began to search him, and Luna, a woman investigator of the FBI offered to help. Luna was so acquainted with Joei's mentality, they found a clue to Joei's hideout. Joei killed other FBI agents who'd pursued him, but Kain caught up with Joei just as he was about to leave. After desperate struggle, Kain got back Mel. A long time have past since then…

Marimo RAGAWA

Jets
Comics

Jets Comics

ニューヨーク・ニューヨーク 4

羅川真里茂

白泉社

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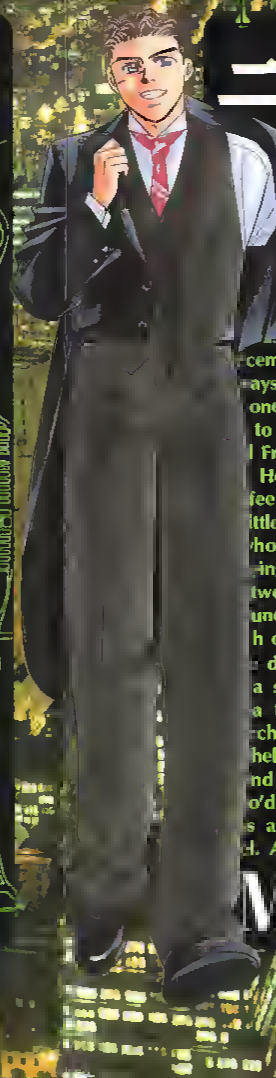
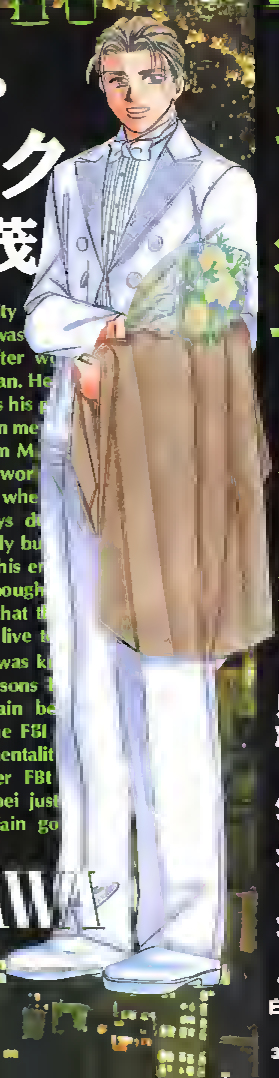
N.Y.N.Y.

ニューヨーク・ニューヨーク

羅川真里茂





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Marimo RAGAWA

Jets Comics

Jets Comics

ニューヨーク・ニューヨーク 4

羅川真里茂

白泉社 ◆ 344

N.Y.N.Y.

ニューヨーク・ニューヨーク

羅川真里茂

4

HAKUSENSHA

ニューヨーク・ニューヨーク　4

Episode Ⅳ　Scene 7 …… 5
Episode Ⅳ　Scene 8 …… 48
Episode Ⅴ …… 93
NewYork²あれやこれ// …… 126
僕から君へ …… 130
あとがき …… 196

★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・
団体・事件などにはいっさい関係ありません。

N.Y.N.Y.4

ニューヨーク・
ニューヨーク

羅川真里茂

Hello?
PLEASE RESPOND
THIS IS FLAVER
HELLO HELLO
BEEP.
YOU ARE . MR GLENN?
.. YEAH
AH, GOOD
WE HADN'T HEARD FROM YOU IN A WHILE, WE WERE STARTING TO WORRY

HEL-LO?
HELLO HELLO?
GLENN? CAN YOU HEAR ME?
HEL-LO!?
KRZZZ
INVESTIGATOR PITTSBURG AND OFFICER WALKER ARE ON THEIR WAY OVER TO YOU NOW
HAVE YOU MET THE MANAGER OF THAT VILLA ALREADY?
WE'RE ALSO THINKING OF HEADING OVER TO CONFIRM HIS ID
Fucking shit!!
ガチャッ
!?
KKK
KKK
KKK
ON
OFF

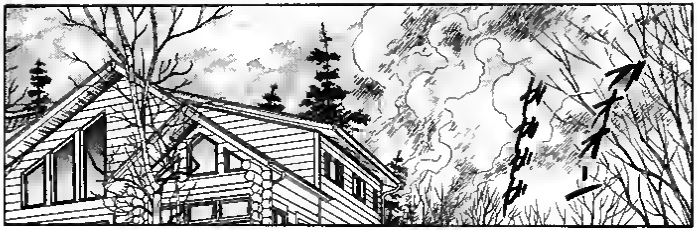
IT'S YOUR FUCKING FAULT!!
FUCKING SHIT!!
RUINED!! EVERY-THING'S RUINED!!
FUCK !!!
FUCK YOU !!
Whew -
Pant
Pant

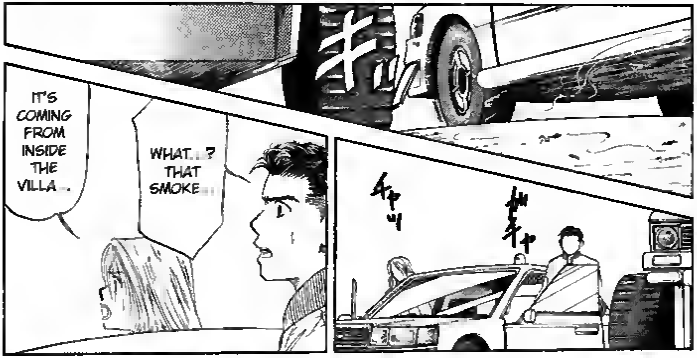
HIGHWAY SIX!
WHAT DIRECTION FROM MIDDLE TOWN?
AH SOUTH
PLEASE !!
PLEASE BE ALRIGHT !!
MEL!!
I WANT TO SEE YOU!!
SO MUCH ...!!

Episode Ⅳ Scene 7

DAY 31 SINCE ME DISAP-PEARED
MOUNT HOPE
SHAWAN-GUNK RIDGE
DIED BECUSE OF ME ...
THOSE TWO FBI ...
DID THIS ALL HAPPEN ...?
WHY ...
I CAN'T TAKE ANYMORE ...
KAIN ..
IT ... HURTS TOO MUCH ..
ギ!
ギ!
Para
Para

Pant
Pant
Pant
Uhnnn
Pant
SMELLS LIKE DIESEL ...?
HE ...
WE'RE LEAVING HERE
Pant
Pant
GET DRESSED


ゴオオー
ゴゴゴゴ


キュッ
IT'S COMING FROM INSIDE THE VILLA..
WHAT..? THAT SMOKE..
ガヤ
ガヤ

ゴオオ
ゴオオ
ゴオオ

!!
ゴオオオ
KAIN !!
IS THIS IT!?
HE RAN!? JUST AS WE GOT HERE!!
HE'S DISTROY-ING THE EVIDENCE
OH NO... HE'S GOT US...
A TRAIL ...
OF BLACK SMOKE ...
HUH!?
ゴオオオ
LOOK!! OVER THERE
FAR OVER THERE!!
AND THE LODGE ISN'T TOO BADLY DAMAGED YET
WHICH MEANS THE FIRE HASN'T BEEN BURNING THAT LONG!
WHICH MEANS HE MUST HAVE RUN ON FOOT
THE OFF-ROADER IS STILL PARKED HERE
YOU KEEP LOOKING AROUND HERE!!
THERE COULD BE SOMETHING THERE! GIVE ME THE CAR KEYS!

PANT
IF I LEAVE YOU, I'M LEAVING YOU DEAD!!
ISN'T IT BETTER TO LEAVE ME...
IF YOU'RE RUNNING...
JOEY...
YOU... MUST KNOW THAT...
I'M NOT ERIC...
JOEY...
I'M NOT...
FOOT-PRINTS...?
INTO THE MOU-NTAIN...

THE GROUND IS FROSTY...
FROST ...!?
THEY'RE JUST UP AHEAD!!
WHICH MEANS
BUT THAT YOU'VE LIVED THIS LONG MEANS YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO LIVE FOR
THOSE SCARS ON YOUR WRIST
MEANS YOU TRIED TO KILL YOURSELF, RIGHT?
DID 'KAIN'... CHANGE YOUR LIFE SO MUCH?
YOU'RE ...A WEAK MAN, WHO WANTED TO DIE ONCE...

!!
Part
Part
WHY SO SURPRISED?
WHEN YOU'RE ASLEEP, AND EVEN DURING SEX YOU MURMUR THAT NAME
Part
...YOU CHOSE...
DIFFERENT PEOPLE TO BE YOUR 'ERIC'
BUT I.. COULD NEVER ACCEPT ANOTHER 'KAIN'...
Crunch
Part
THERE'S NO-ONE WHO COULD BE HIS REPLACEMENT ...!!
Part
Hush
Hush

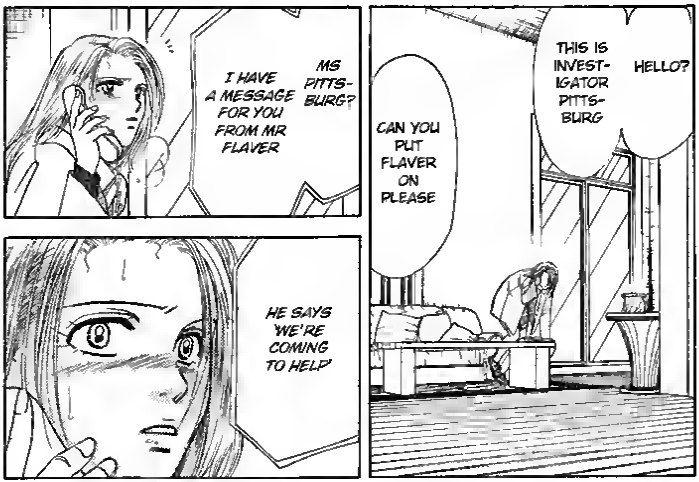
PLEASE STOP, JOEY!!
PLEASE, DON'T KILL ANYMORE !!
JOEY KLINE !!
Jesus Christ
GLENN ...
MORGAN ...
スス
スス
Pant
Pant
Pant
IT'S SNOWING ...
Pant
... OH MY GOD

HE'S NO WOODS-MAN
Darn
POLICE? FBI?
Darn
A LITTLE SUICIDAL RAT
TAKE A LOOK
Darn
Darn
Darn
Darn
Darn
Darn
Budum
KAIN !!
budum
budum
Budum

.....
Pant
.....
Pant
YOU... KNOW HIM?
LOOKS LIKE HE'S COMING THIS WAY
PROB-ABLY BEST TO KILL HIM
JOEY !!
!?
LIAR
IF I DON'T KILL HIM, HE'S ALL YOU'LL EVER THINK ABOUT, RIGHT?
JOEY!! PLEASE DON'T DO IT!!
JOEY ..!!
HE'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS!!

JOEY ...
See You Later
I SAID I'LL GO WITH YOU!!
THAT'S KAIN, ISN'T IT!?
THAT'S KAIN, HUH?
I'LL.. I'LL GO WITH YOU...
PLEASE ..
I'D GO WITH YOU ..
I SAID ...
WHY ...!?
HURT KAIN ...
Pant
PLEASE DON'T ...

ハア
ハア
ハア
ハア!
ガシャーン
カチ


HELLO?
THIS IS INVEST-IGATOR PITTS-BURG
CAN YOU PUT FLAVER ON PLEASE
MS PITTS-BURG?
I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOU FROM MR FLAVER
HE SAYS 'WE'RE COMING TO HELP'

HE LEFT ABOUT 30 MINUTES AGO
ER ... IC ...
HELLO? MS PITTS-BURG?
Hello?
I'D NEVER SEEN
JOEY'S WORK BEFORE ...

ドーン
ドーン
ドーン
ドーン
!!
WHERE ...
HAVE THEY GONE ...?

KAIN !!
THAT ...
WAS A GUN-SHOT ..
come here
come on
come on
LUCKY HE DIDN'T BLOW MY HEAD OFF ..
I GUESS ?
JUST GRAZED ME...
IT CAME FROM THE LEFT ..
Fuckin'!!
Let's break out!

ズキーン
ハア
ブキーッ
UH
NGH
...
ガチャー
ガチャ
UGH
BREAK
!!
NGH
PLEASE
BREAK
!!
ビッ
ヤ

THE RIVER'S LOUD.. MAKES IT HARD TO HEAR ANYTHING ELSE..
ズズズズ
ズズズズー
ドドドド
ドドドド
BUDUM
BUDUM
BUDUM
ドドドドビィィィッ

ドーン
JOEY !!
NGH ...

ガガッ
ガガッ

ビビッ
ガガッ

ドン

PUT BOTH HANDS ABOVE YOUR HEAD!!
JOEY KLINE
!!
!!
!!
YOU'RE KAIN?
WHERE'S MEL?
GO AHEAD AND SHOOT
TELL ME WHERE MEL IS!! HE'S ALRIGHT ISN'T HE!?
I SAID PUT YOUR HANDS UP!!

IF YOU NEVER WANT TO FIND 'MEL' AGAIN
NGH
!!

WHOA
KAIN

ドドドドド
ドドドドド
ガッ
ハッ
ギュッ
NGH ...!!
!!

HAH...
NKH...
AND THE TIDES TURN...

YOU WANT THE RIVER TO SWALLOW YOU, OR DO YOU WANT ME TO KILL YOU HERE?
THE CANCERS ENTER THE WATER FURTHER DOWN-STREAM
KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE DIED IN THESE RAPIDS?
ガラッ
ガラガラ
UGH
……
!!
ゴゴゴゴ
ガバッ
NGH
JOEY …
Fuck You!!

HANG ON!!
I'LL COME PUT A BULLET THROUGH YOUR BRAIN
NGH
EXCITING, HUH?
I WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!!
MEL!!
MEL!!

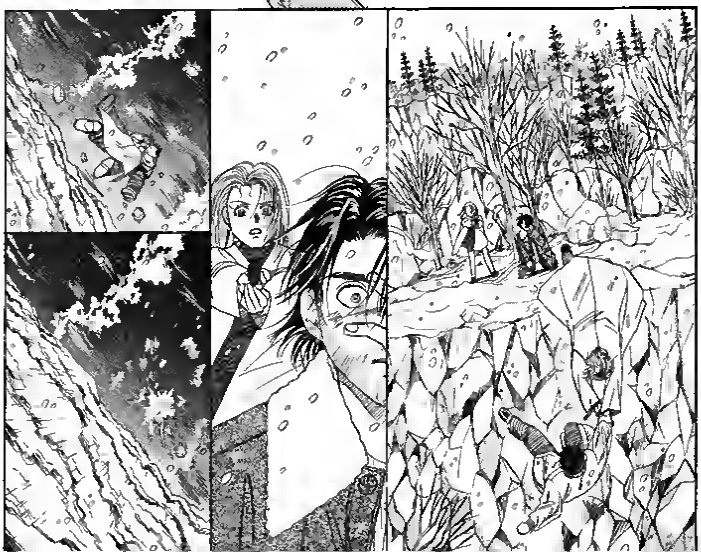
ME
...
KAIN!!
ヒィ
ハァ
ハ
ヒィ
ハ
ヒィ
ハ
……

KAIN ...!!
ME ... LI?
NO!!
I ALWAYS ... HOPED THAT WE WOULD ...
FIND EACH-OTHER AGAIN ...
UH ... NGH ...
MEL!!
YOUR HAND CAN'T TAKE IT!!
MEL, LET GO!!

I DON'T
WANT TO LEAVE YOU AGAIN!!
MEL
SQUEEZE

JOEY KLINE
DON'T MOVE!!
HAH ...
AH ... GH
KAIN, ARE YOU OK!?
HANG IN THERE!!
OK, MEL
WE'LL BE TOGETHER ...

JOEY !!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO MOVE !!
HAH
COME ON, MEL
COME ON ..



KAIN !!
HA HA HA
.....
THE LAST TIME WE SAW EACH OTHER WAS NINE YEARS AGO?
IT'S BEEN A WHILE
!!
WHAT FOOLS ...
DON'T YOU THINK SO?
YOU SEEM WELL
BIG SISTER

PLEASE HELP ME, LUNA
ERIC WROTE IN EVERY SINGLE LETTER ...
SOMETIMES IT'S LIKE JOEY HAS A SWITCH THAT FLIPS AND HE JUST LOOSES HIS TEMPER. I NEVER KNOW WHAT TO DO AND I END UP CRYING
IT REALLY SCARES ME
LIKE A MANTRA ...
はあ
はあ
はあ
はあ
はあ
HE BEGGED ME
PLEASE SAVE ME
PLEASE SAVE JOEY
'SAVE JOEY'
EVEN TELLING ME I WASN'T YOUR BROTHER ...
PLEASE, LUNA ..
YOU PRETENDED NOT TO SEE WHAT MOM AND DAD DID TO ME
YOU
NEVER SAVED ME

I WAS A WEAK CHILD...
はぁ
JOEY... I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF YOU AS MY LITTLE BROTHER
はぁ
JOEY
I LOVE YOU
THAT'S WHY I HAD TO COME AND STOP YOU..
NO-ONE COULD LOVE YOU
JOEY
!!!
!!!
!!!

ハア
ハア
ビッチャッ
ハア
ザー
ザー!
ハア
MEL
はぼっ?
MEL?
ハア
ゴぼっ
MEL
...
ハア
ゴぼっ

KAI...N
ごぼっ
MEL...
I..
I
FINALLY
FOUND
YOU...
KAIN
...

THANK YOU
MEL
GOD
KAIN
KAIN

ザク…
ON THE 31ST DAY
SINCE HIS DISAP-PEARANCE, MEL FREDRICKS WAS FOUND UNHARMED
JOEY KLINE'S CRIMES IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK
EDMOND GREY, JESSICA LANGER, AND FBI INVESTIGATORS RAY MORGAN AND EDDY GLENN
GAVE FOUR VICTIMS
WAS SHOT AND KILLED IN SHAWAN-GUNK RIDGE
THE SERIAL KILLER WHO TARGETED BLONDS, JOEY KLINE

Episode Ⅳ Scene7／THE END

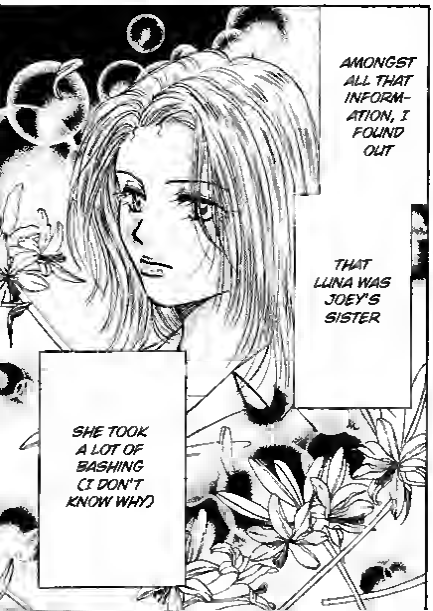
Episode Ⅳ Scene 8

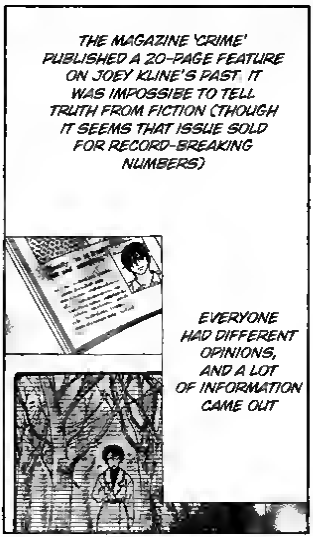
さてさて。とうとう完結の4巻です。

今日は。羅川真里茂です。「NY²」も4巻です。完結です。この18年の一年間で全4巻出したので私って偉い!!「続き気になるから早く出して」と言って下さった読者様方。ありがとうです。一応頑張って早目には出したのですよ。始まった頃にはちゃんと最後まで描ききれるのか不安でしたが一終われるもんですねェ。読んでいると分かるかもしれませんが、いつもいつも頁が足りませんでした。ううう最後の最後まで足りませんでした。私ってアホねー(T_T)

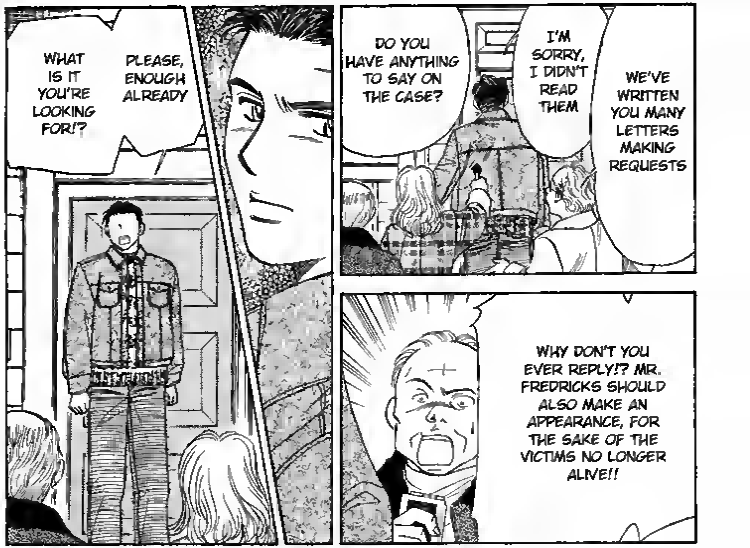
98.10.27 まりも

HATRED OF BLONDS?
TV, RADIO, NEWS-PAPERS
THIS WAS ALL THEY REPORTED ON
RESULTS OF AN ABUSIVE CHILDHOOD?
シリアルキラーの死
Serial Kille
JOEY KLINE SHOT DEAD!!
WHAT WAS IT THAT DROVE HIM TO DO THIS?
THE ACTIONS OF SERIAL KILLER JOEY KLINE SHOOK ALL OF AMERICA


AMONGST ALL THAT INFORM-ATION, I FOUND OUT
THAT LUNA WAS JOEY'S SISTER
SHE TOOK A LOT OF BASHING (I DON'T KNOW WHY)


THE MAGAZINE 'CRIME' PUBLISHED A 20-PAGE FEATURE ON JOEY KLINE'S PAST. IT WAS IMPOSSIBE TO TELL TRUTH FROM FICTION (THOUGH IT SEEMS THAT ISSUE SOLD FOR RECORD-BREAKING NUMBERS)
EVERYONE HAD DIFFERENT OPINIONS, AND A LOT OF INFORMATION CAME OUT

PLEASE STOP BLOCKING THE CAR!!
HOW IS MR. FREDRICKS?
CAN YOU PLEASE LEAVE US ALONE
MR. WALKER, PLEASE MAKE AN APPEARANCE ON OUR PROGRAMME
EVERYDAY, THERE WERE REPORTERS CAMPED OUTSIDE OUR HOUSE
WE WERE NO EXCEPTION


PLEASE, ENOUGH ALREADY
WHAT IS IT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!?
DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY ON THE CASE?
I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T READ THEM
WE'VE WRITTEN YOU MANY LETTERS MAKING REQUESTS
WHY DON'T YOU EVER REPLY!? MR. FREDRICKS SHOULD ALSO MAKE AN APPEARANCE, FOR THE SAKE OF THE VICTIMS NO LONGER ALIVE!!

HOW HARD THAT MUST HAVE BEEN!! IT WOULD BE WEIRD FOR HIM TO BE OVER IT ALREADY!!
HE ALSO HAD TO WITNESS THE DEATHS OF SEVERAL PEOPLE!!
HE WAS FORCIBLY HELD FOROVER A MONTH, AND ASSAULTED, AND ON TOP OF THAT
YOU'D UNDERSTAND IF YOU STOPPED TO THINK!! WHAT KIND OF EMOTIONS HE'S GOING THROUGH RIGHT NOW!!
'SHOULD'!? YOU'RE TALKING LIKE HE'S RESPONSIBLE!!
ALRIGHT !?
DID YOU KNOW OF THESE RUMO-URS?
I MEAN THAT YOU ARE SAID TO BE HIS LOVER
I DON'T KNOW... I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU MEAN
.....
!!
...
MR.WALKER, CAN YOU HEAL THE EMOTIONAL WOUNDS HE'S RECEIVED FROM THIS ORDEAL?
PLEASE, A WORD
AT LEAST MOVE TO QUELL THESE RUMOURS
WELL, THIS IS FROM THE HOMOPHOBICS, AFTERALL
'THE REASON MEL FREDRICKS WAS TAKEN WAS BECAUSE HE SEDUCED JOEY KLINE HE INVITED WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM AFTER ALL, ALL GAYS ARE PROMISCUOUS'

THOSE RUMOURS ARE NOTHING BUT SHIT!!
IT SEEMS LIKE THOSE PERVERTS DON'T HAVE TWO BRAINCELLS TO RUB TOGETHER
THE FALL-OUT HIT HIM HARD
THE WHOLE THING WAS TERRIBLY HARD ON MEL
MEL?
...-L...
...MEL?

NO .. NOT REALLY ...
THE PHONE JUST KEEPS RINGING ...
NO... YOU OK ..?
DID YOU SLEEP ALRI-GHT?
I'M SORRY... I DIDN'T NOTICE
AH KA ..IN ...? YOU'RE BACK ...
LOOKS AT ME
TO MAKE SURE I'M REALLY THERE
IT'S THAT OR THE NEWS
CAR-TOONS?
I'VE BEEN WATCHING CARTOONS ALL DAY
AH .
IT'S BEEN RE-DONE. THE EARLIEST EPISODES WERE THE BEST
THE KIDS VERSION OF TOM AND JERRY IS A BIT ODD
MEL ALWAYS
AND THEN

WHENEVER HE'S TOUCHED SUDDENLY, HE FLINCHES BADLY
HE FINALLY LEANS IN TO TOUCH ME
TODAY WAS A FAILURE
JUST HOW DEEP HIS SCARS REALLY GO
I GUESS THAT IN THE END, I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND
HEY GAY BITCH !!

THEY WERE SAYING HOW COPS WERE JUST A BUNCH OF GAYS AND TRANNYS!!
AND I GOT SCREWED AROUND BUY SOME CRIMS!!
I'VE HAD TO PUT UP WITH A LOT OF SHIT BECAUSE OF YOU!!
I GOT MOBBED BY THE MEDIA WHEN I WAS ON PATROL!
SO WHAT, NOW I SHOULD SAY 'THAT'S RIGHT, WE'RE ALL TRANNYS' HUH!?
THE CRIMS HAVE ALWAYS SAID THINGS LIKE THAT. I DOUBT IT HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH ME
WHAT ABOUT YOU!? HUH!?
YOU'RE MEANT TO BE A NYPD REP? THEN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!!
BRIAN ..
OW OW OW
OUT. JONES !!
CUT. THAT.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, KAIN?
YOU'RE MEANT TO BE ON PATROL
.....
OK, C'MON KAIN, LET'S GO!!
YEAH
HM
WHAT THE HELL, BRIAN
YOU A FRIEND OF THE HOMOS?
THAT THEY CAN DESIRE SOMEONE OF THEIR OWN SEX MAKES ME SHIVER
JESUS CALLED IT A POLLUTION, A SIN PUNISHED BY GOD, RIGHT?
BRIAN
AND I'M SURPRISED AT YOU, THAT YOU CAN BASH SOMEONE THAT YOU USED TO CALL YOUR FRIEND LIKE THAT
LIKE THERE'S SUCH THING AS FRIENDS OR ENEMIES !!

GAYS WILL DRAG THIS WORLD DOWN TO HELL
STOP RIGHT THERE, JONES
IF I
KEEP DISCUSSING THIS WITH YOU
IT'LL ONLY DEPRESS ME
AT NIGHT, MEL'S MEMORIES OF WHAT HAPPENED ARE ESPECIALLY VIVID

Sob
Sob
Sob
WHEN WE'RE IN BED, I CAN FEEL HIM SHAKE AT MY BACK
AND HE TOSSES AND TURNS
AND HE CRIES SILENTLY

YOU OK ...?
ANYTHING I CAN DO...?
ISN'T THERE ...
MEL ...?

!
MEL ...

ERIC
...
PLEASE DON'T TOUCH ME!!
ERIC
YOU
LOVE ME, RIGHT?
ズーン
はあ
はー
はー
はあ
はー

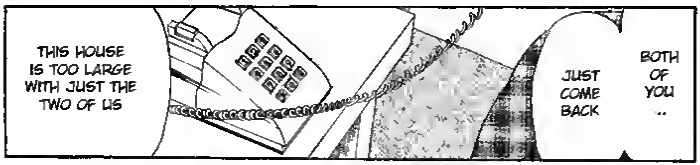
KAIN
...?
ギ...ッ
IT WAS A SHOCK
ガタガタ
バタン...
I'LL SLEEP IN THE OTHER ROOM
IT WAS A SHOCK
ガタガタ
ぴゅおおお

キイ…
KAIN
I'M SOR-RY …
TRUTH IS … WHEN YOU'RE AT WORK, I GET SO ANXIOUS I CAN'T TAKE IT…
BUT MORE THAN THAT … I'M SCARED WHEN YOU'RE NOT THERE …
I'M SCARED … OF BEING TOUCHED …
BUT NOT ALWAYS … JUST SOME-TIMES

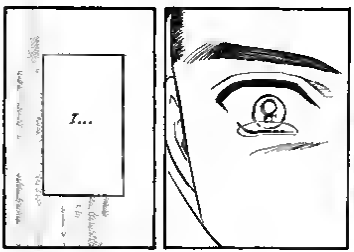
I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU
PLEASE DON'T ...
HATE ME...
!?
...
... HOW COULD I?
DON'T WORRY
BROWN'S COUNSELING OFFICE
Dr. MAURICE-C BROWN
BROWN'S COUNSELLING OFFICE
MEL.. IF YOU'RE SCARED TO LEAVE THE HOUSE THEN I'LL GO WITH YOU..
SO WON'T YOU PLEASE CONSIDER COUNSELLING . ?

WELCOME, MR FRED-RICKS
I'M MORRIS C. BROWN
NICE TO MEET YOU
HAHAHA, DESPITE MY LOOKS, I'M A GOOD DEAL OLDER THAN YOU
AH SORRY ...
DO I NOT SEEM VERY DOCTOR-LY? YOU LOOK SURPRISED
HELLO ..
DOC-TOR
PLEASE, TAKE A SEAT AND RELAX
WELL... HE'S HANGING IN THERE
HOW ARE YOU? HOW'S MEL?
HOW ARE YOU AND DAD?
KAIN
IT SEEMS THE NEWS HAS CALMED DOWN LATELY. EVEN IF THEY COME FOR AN INTERVIEW, DON'T ACCEPT

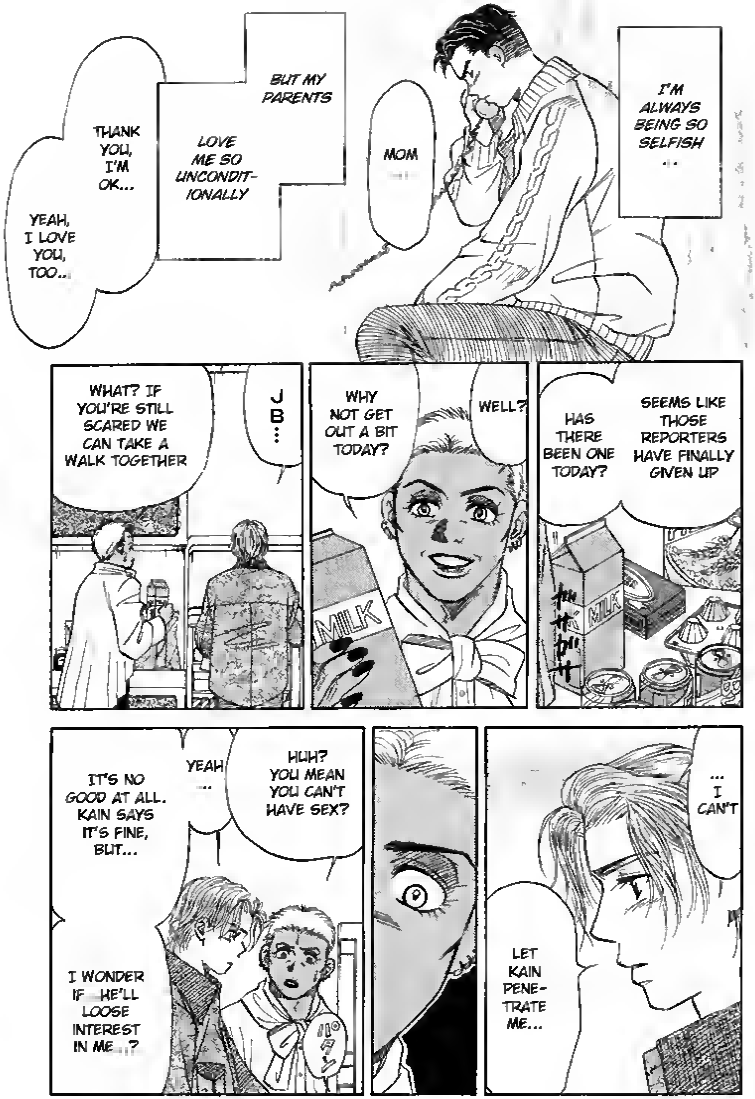
IF... LIVING IN NEW YORK BECOMES TOO MUCH
PLEASE, COME LIVE WITH US
WHAT I WAS MORE WORRIED ABOUT WAS PEOPLE TREATING THEM BADLY BECAUSE THEY HAD A GAY SON
KAIN
HM?
YOU HAVEN'T... HAD ANY PROBLEMS WITH THE MEDIA SHOWING UP? AT DAD'S WORK, OR...
HOW DO YOU MEAN?
AH, THERE HAVE BEEN ONE OR TWO RATHER STUPID, AREN'T THEY THOUGH THEY KNEW SOMETHING ABOUT CLINTON


THIS HOUSE IS TOO LARGE WITH JUST THE TWO OF US
JUST COME BACK
BOTH OF YOU ..

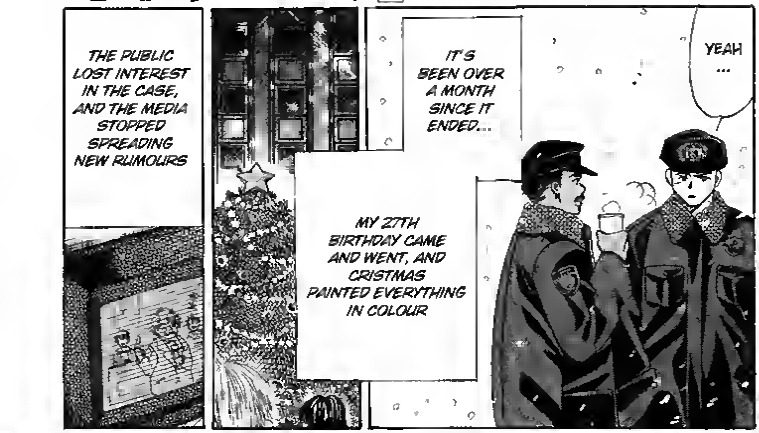
YOU'RE ALWAYS PUSHING YOURSELF TOO HARD ...


I...

ABOUT YOU BOTH ..
WE'RE SO WORRIED ...


I'M ALWAYS BEING SO SELFISH...
MOM
BUT MY PARENTS LOVE ME SO UNCONDIT-IONALLY
THANK YOU, I'M OK...
YEAH, I LOVE YOU, TOO...
SEEMS LIKE THOSE REPORTERS HAVE FINALLY GIVEN UP
HAS THERE BEEN ONE TODAY?
WELL?
WHY NOT GET OUT A BIT TODAY?
MILK
JB...
WHAT? IF YOU'RE STILL SCARED WE CAN TAKE A WALK TOGETHER
... I CAN'T
LET KAIN PENE-TRATE ME...
HUH? YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T HAVE SEX?
YEAH ...
IT'S NO GOOD AT ALL. KAIN SAYS IT'S FINE, BUT...
I WONDER IF HE'LL LOOSE INTEREST IN ME...?

JOEY'S GONNA GET YOU!
わはは
……
WHAT SHOULD I DO..?
BUT I DON'T WANT ANYONE ELSE ..
BUT I CAN'T MAKE HIM HAPPY ...
I LOVE HIM... I LOVE HIM SO MUCH
WELL OBVIOUSLY!!
I'M HURTING HIM SO MUCH ...
ONE DAY JOEY'LL COME AND GET YOU!!
わはは
IS IT HARD TO HEAR HIS NAME?
JOEY'S ABOUT AS FAMOUS AS JOHNNY OR FREDDY NOW, IN NEW YORK
……
YOU KNOW
わはは
MY MOM SAYS THAT JOEY WILL COME AND GET BACK KIDS
NOOO WHY?


THE PUBLIC LOST INTEREST IN THE CASE, AND THE MEDIA STOPPED SPREADING NEW RUMOURS
IT'S BEEN OVER A MONTH SINCE IT ENDED...
MY 27TH BIRTHDAY CAME AND WENT, AND CRISTMAS PAINTED EVERYTHING IN COLOUR
YEAH ...

(AND I'M SURE THAT MY TONE AND TITTUDE HAVE ALSO BECOME COOLER)
THE SHADOW OF WHAT HAPPENED STRETCHES VERY FAR...
ARE VERY HEAVY ...
THE THINGS THIS WHOLE CASE HAD DUMPED ON MEL
I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU
MR. WALKER
ABOUT WHAT'S CAUSING YOUR PARTNER SO MUCH PAIN
(THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS RUNNING AROUND MEL'S MIND WHEN HE'S ALONE)

DO YOU RECOMMEND IT TO YOUR PATIENTS?
I LIKE THEM, AND THEY CALM ME DOWN
DOCTOR
DID YOU PUT IN ALL OF THESE FISH TANKS?
I'M SURE IT'S HARD ON YOU,TOO
.....
I RECOMMENDED MEL THAT HE GET A HIGH-SCHOOL DIPLOMA
NOPE
THIS IS JUST A HOBBY OF MINE
YES
AMAZING . . IT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD?

AS YOU KNOW, HE WAS RUNNING FROM HIS STEP-FATHER AT THE TIME
THOUGH IN MEL'S CASE IT WASN'T OF HIS OWN VOLITION
THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO DROP OUT OF HIGH-SCHOOL

AND HE'S TEARING HIMSELF APART BECAUSE HE WAS UNABLE TO SAVE THE OTHER VICTIMS
WHEN HE SEES A YOUNG MAN WHO LOOKS LIKE JOEY, HE FREEZES
HIS FEAR OF BEING TAKEN AWAY AGAIN MEANS HE CAN'T LEAVE THE HOUSE
RIGHT NOW, HE'S A MESS
HE'S COWERING IN JOEY'S SHADOW

AND FEARS THAT YOU WILL LEAVE HIM
HE FEELS HE OWES YOU
MORE THAN ANY-THING
TO BE HONEST, HE SHOULD HAVE A GREAT NUMBER OF TRAUMAS
BUT HE PUSHED ALL THAT ASIDE FOR HIS NEW LIFE, AND BURIED IT AS DEEP AS HE COULD
HE'S PUSHED TOO HARD ...
THE SEXUAL ABUSE AT HOME
THE WAY HIS PAST PARTNERS HAVE TREATED HIM ...
HE SPENT HIS PAST AS A DRIFTER, WITHOUT ANY-ONE TO LOOK OUT FOR HIM
TO... ME? WHY...?
HIS PAST MEANS THAT SEXUAL PROBLEMS HOLD A GREATER WEIGHT
IT SEEMS THAT HIS PAST PARTNERS VALUED THE PHYSICAL PART OF THEIR RELATIONSHIP OVER THE EMOTIONAL
AND... THIS CASE HAS DUG ALL OF IT BACK UP AGAIN
HE WANTS TO PERFORM PENETRATIVE SEX WITH YOU
BUT HE'S UNABLE TO

WHY!?
I DON'T GET THAT !!
YOU COULD SAY HE'S IMPATIENT WITH HIMSELF
THAT'S WHY BEING UNABLE TO HAVE SEX WITH YOU LEAVES HIM FEELING VERY VULNERABLE
HIS WAY OF LOVING IS... SUBMISSIVE
... WHY ...
WHY DOES HE...? I LOVE HIM, FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART...
HAPPINESS IS BORN WHEN THE PHYSICAL FOLLOWS THE EMOTIONAL !.
YOU HAVE PLENTY OF TIME GO SLOWLY... AND PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF HIM
HE STILL, TOO, LOVES YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF HIS HEART
TO HIM, YOUR PLACE IN HIS LIFE IS CLEARLY DIFFERENT TO WHAT IT WAS BEFORE

I'VE NEVER THOUGHT THAT
REDI-CULOUS ...
DOES HE HAVE NO RIGHT TO BE YOUR PARTNER?
IS HE DIRTIED NOW?
AND ...
ONE LAST FEAR HE HARBOURS
ME TOO, DOCTOR
THANKS, MISTER I'M GLAD WE HAD THIS TALK
I'M DONE MEL LET'S GO HOME

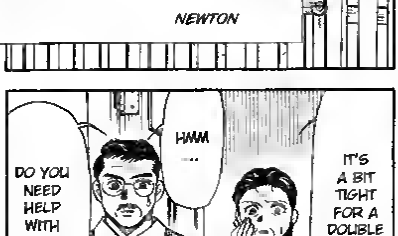
... WAS IT OK?
YEAH
IT WAS INTERESTING
ESPECIALLY THE CHAT ABOUT THE FISH
FISH?
THE OTHER PROBLEMS WEREN'T GOING AS WELL
I'M GAY
I'm homo!!
I love Big dick
Please Please
I wanna Fuckin my Ass

HEY !! JONES !!
!!
NEW YORK IS TOO BIG ...IN A LOT OF WAYS

MEL
!?
MEL
!?
MEL..
KAIN
...
YEAH
...
KAIN
...?

THERE'S A MELODY PLAYING OVER AND OVER IN MY HEAD
WHAT IS IT?
KAIN ..
I'M SCARED ...TO BE IN THIS HOUSE ALONE..
HE SAW THE NEWS... HE ACTED... LIKE NOTHING..
WH-WHY ..?
I GOT A CALL..
FROM... MY DAD ...
!!
キュ...
MEL ...
SOME-ONE
ONCE SAID THAT
LET'S LEAVE NEW YORK
'NEW YORK IS THE CITY OF YEARNING'
AHH, YES

ONE MONTH INTO THE NEW YEAR
MIDDLESEX, MASSACHUSETTS
NEWTON

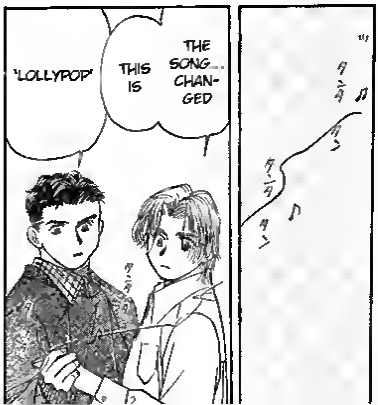

HMM ...
IT'S A BIT TIGHT FOR A DOUBLE BED, ISN'T IT...
DO YOU NEED HELP WITH ANY-THING?

I TOLD YOU,
NOT RIGHT NOW
WE'RE FINE. WE'RE ALMOST DONE

FRANK SINATRA'S 'NEW YORK NEW YORK' ...
Start spreadin' the news
I'm leavin' today
I want to be a part of it
New York, New York
These vagabond shoes
Are longing to stray
Right through the very heart of it
New York, New York
I wanna wake up
In a city that doesn't sleep
And find I'm king of the hill
Top of the heap
These little town blues
Are melting away
I'll make a brand new start of it
In old New York
If I can make it there
I'll make it anywhere
It's up to you
New York, New York

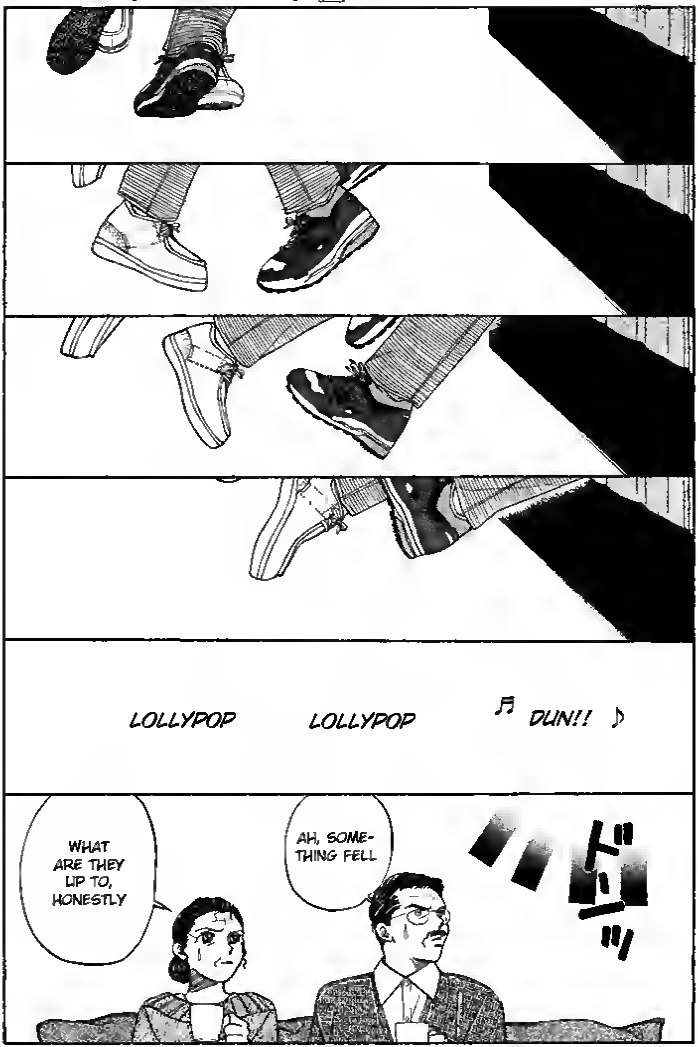
WANT TO FUSS A BIT, I GUESS?
KAIN
THERE ARE SOME TAPES IN THIS CASE
JUST GO SIT DOWN-STAIRS
ARE YOU SURE? REALLY SURE?
うろ ちょろ うろ ちょろ
OH, THAT WAS A GOOD MOVIE
RIVER PHOENIX WASN'T IT?
'STAND BY ME'
WHAT'S THIS?
AH, THEY MUST HAVE PUT THEM HERE WHEN THEY TIDIED THE PLACE UP
THESE ARE FROM MY SCHOOL DAYS
WANNA LISTEN?
DARLING
LET'S DANCE

When the night has come
And the land is dark
TWO LOVERS
RIGHT?
TWO GUYS?
Light we'll see
And the moon is the only
KAIN
YOU'RE KIND
HIM?
REALLY? YOU THINK SO?



YOU CHANGED ME

DUDUN DUN DUN!!
Lollipop!!
YES YOU ARE !!
AHAHA I'M NOT DANCING
Lollipop Lollipop, oh Lolli-Lolli
Lollipop-Lollipop, oh Lolli-Lolli
Lollipop-Lollipop, oh Lolli-Lolli
Call my baby
Lollipop
Tell you why
His kiss is sweeter than an apple pie


LOLLYPOP LOLLYPOP
♬ DUN!! ♪
WHAT ARE THEY UP TO, HONESTLY
AH, SOMETHING FELL
ドドド

WORK HERE IN BOSTON
交通整備
AS A COP
WHAT I WANTED TO DO WAS
AFTER THAT
SO
BOSTON POLICE
A.D. 1630
NI-?
NI-
NI-
Ichi tasu ichi wa?
I'M QUITE POPULAR WITH THE SIGHTSEERS (ESPECIALLY THE JAPANESE)
HE'S GETTING HIS HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA NEXT YEAR
I ENCOURAGED MEL TO STUDY IN BOSTON, TOO

EIGHT MONTHS LATER
リーデーン
リーデーン
Yes ?
LUNA?
HEY!! YOU LOOK WELL
I HAD BUSINESS IN BOSTON SO I THOUGHT I'D DROP BY
HOW'S MEL?
HE'S GOOD, HE'S REALLY SETTLED DOWN
HE'S OUT SHOPPING WITH MOM
THEY GET ALONG WELL, HUH?
YEAH
SEEMS LIKE MEL'S EASIER TO CHAT TO THAN ME
IT'S CAUSE HE'S SO FRIENDLY

YOU TOO... YOU'VE HAD IT HARD, HAVEN'T YOU?
I'M GLAD...
I WAS REALLY WORRIED AFTER WHAT HAPPENED
.....
I WANTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN, TOO. TO THANK YOU
...MEL... WANT'S TO MEET YOU
I'VE HAD A LARGE WEIGHT TAKEN OFF MY SHOULDERS
I'M ALRIGHT
CAN I GIVE YOU A KISS?
THAT'S JUST HOW I AM
REALLY ...THAT'S PRETTY FRANK

THANK YOU
LUNA
I'M SO GLAD I MET YOU
GIVE EVERY-ONE MY REGARDS
SORRY, THOUGH IF YOU HAVE A FEW MORE MINUTES THEY SHOULD BE BACK
ME TOO, SORRY FOR JUST DROPPING BY
!!!
WE'VE CHANGED
SINCE WE CAME HERE
LUNA
A WEEK AGO ...
MEL AND I WERE ABLE TO GO ALL THE WAY
HE WAS A LITTLE JITTERY, BUT IT WENT WELL

THAT'S ...
VERY GOOD TO HEAR
SAYING THAT
HE LOOKS HAPPY
ガラガラ
AH
PERFECT
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE BACK
OH !!
IT'S MS LUNA!!
OH NO, DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE LEAVING?
WHAT A SHAME, GEORGE WANTED TO SEE YOU, TOO. PLEASE COME AGAIN WHEN YOU GET THE CHANCE
YES, I'M SORRY, I HAVE THINGS TO DO
MEL, YOU'RE LOOKING WELL. HOW'S SCHOOL?
NOT BAD. I'M THINKING OF GOING ON TO UNI
GOOD LUCK
I MAY HAVE A SCHOLARSHIP
THOUGH I HAVE TO KEEP MY GRADES AT A CERTAIN LEVEL

I'VE BEEN ADOPTED
SO I'M NOT 'FREDRICKS' ANYMORE
WELL, I CAN ONLY WORK PART-TIME
WAY TO GO
AND KAIN'S PAY WON'T COVER THE FEES
It's thousands of dollars a year
ARE YOU HAPPY?
MR. MEL WALKER, PLEASE TELL US
THAT SOUNDS KINDA CUTE
YEP
MEL WALKER?
HAHA, KAIN SAID THAT, TOO
YES MA'AM

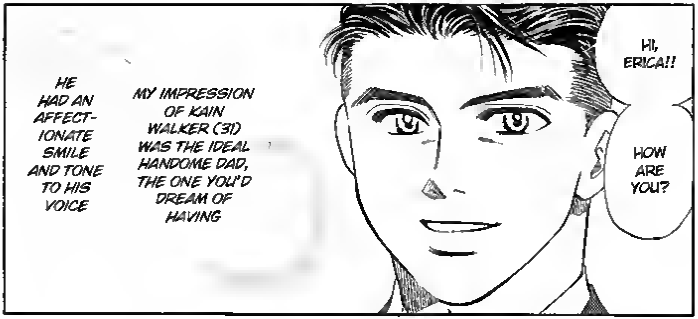
KAIN, KAIN
PUT THE TEA ON, PLEASE
WE'VE BROUGHT SOME LOVELY SOUFFLE
LET'S ALL HAVE SOME TOGETHER

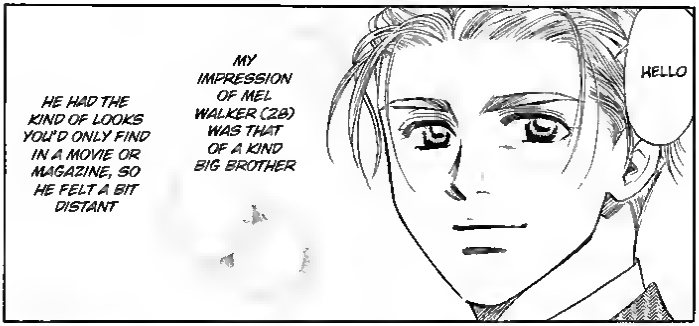
Episode Ⅳ Scene8／THE END

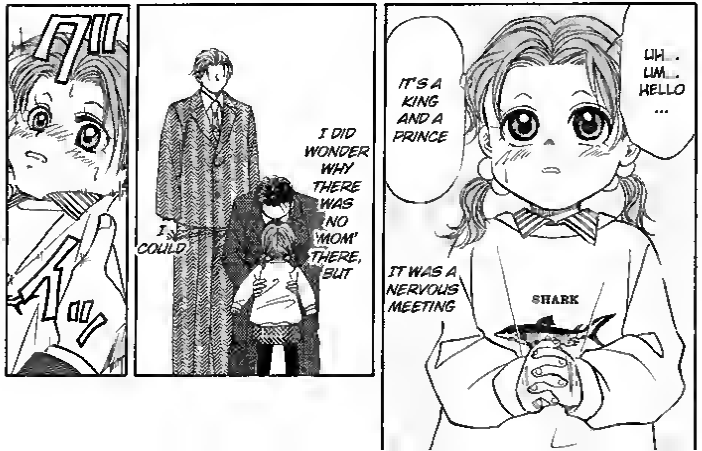
Episode V

Episode V（ファイブ）は最終話です。この話は 描く前 それなりに葛藤はありました。とーぜー葛藤かと言いますと『主人公二人が年をとるのを女性読者は嫌がるだろう』というのと『でも、ここまで描ききってこそ、この二人の人生』との二つの葛藤です。でも描いちゃいました!!とね。結果は「描いて良かった」です。本ト 本ト、ハー… 全部繋がって良かった。ラストのシーンを描き上げた瞬間 本トホッとしましたよ。最終話で立派に語り手役を務めてくれた ケインとメルの娘 エリカ。彼女の性格は 描き易かったです。ここでも そはかすた 赤毛という風貌を使ってしまって…ことごとく 少女漫画のセオリーをムシしちゃいまして…ごめんごめん。最後まで手伝ってくれた 作画スタッフの皆様 編集様 very-thanks ひろすが 10 27 まりも

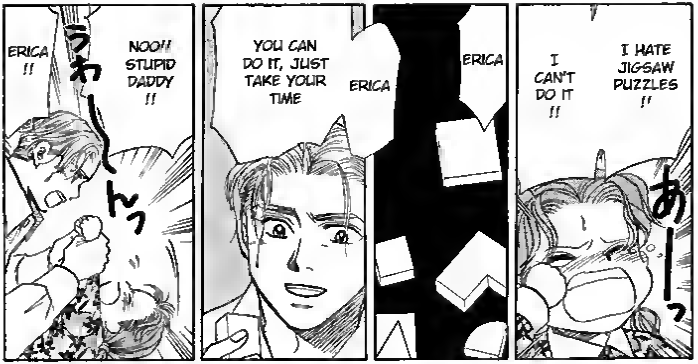
I WAS IN AN ORPHANAGE UNTIL I WAS FIVE YEARS OLD
MY NAME IS ERICA WALKER
THE PERSON WHO GAVE BIRTH TO ME COULDN'T RAISE ME, SO SHE GAVE UP HER PARENTAL RIGHTS
REARK
TEACHER CALLED ME AND WHEN I WENT INTO THE ROOM
THERE WERE TWO MEN
WHEN I HEARD I WAS BEING ADOPTED, I WAS SO NERVOUS
I STILL REMEMBER THAT DAY WHEN I WAS FIVE


HI, ERICA!!
HOW ARE YOU?
MY IMPRESSION OF KAIN WALKER (31) WAS THE IDEAL HANDOME DAD, THE ONE YOU'D DREAM OF HAVING
HE HAD AN AFFECT-IONATE SMILE AND TONE TO HIS VOICE


HELLO
MY IMPRESSION OF MEL WALKER (28) WAS THAT OF A KIND BIG BROTHER
HE HAD THE KIND OF LOOKS YOU'D ONLY FIND IN A MOVIE OR MAGAZINE, SO HE FELT A BIT DISTANT


I COULD
I DID WONDER WHY THERE WAS NO 'MOM' THERE, BUT
UH... UM... HELLO ...
IT'S A KING AND A PRINCE
IT WAS A NERVOUS MEETING
SHARK

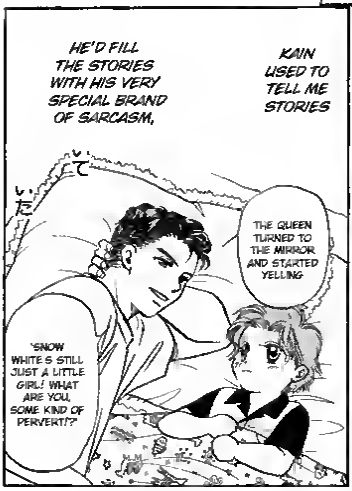
MEL, SHE HAS BLUE EYES JUST LIKE YOU
NICE TO MEET YOU, ERICA
LET'S BE VERY HAPPY TOGETHER
I COULD NEVER FORGET
THE STRONG ARMS THAT HELD ME, AND THE GENTLE, WARM HANDS THAT TOUCHED MY CHEEK
うわ〜んっ!!
I CAN'T DO IT!
ERICA !?
STUPID !!
NOT HERE
NOT HERE
NO ..
HERE ?
GRANMA ESPECIALLY LIKED TO SPOIL ME ROTTEN
GRAMPA AND GRANMA WERE VERY KIND

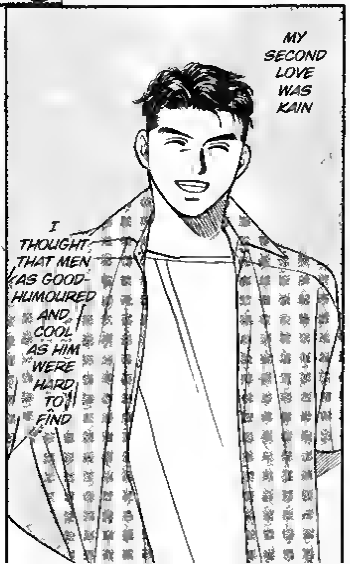

ERICA !!
NOO!! STUPID DADDY !!
うわーんっ
YOU CAN DO IT, JUST TAKE YOUR TIME
ERICA
ERICA
I CAN'T DO IT !!
I HATE JIGSAW PUZZLES !!
あーっ

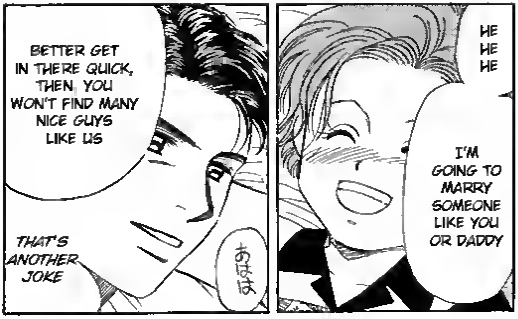
BECAUSE OF THAT, I HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY WITH KEEPING MY TEMPER IN CHECK
CHILDREN BORN TO DRUG ADDICTS ARE CALLED 'CRACK BABIES'
YES, I WAS A CRACK BABY
I HAD A QUICK TEMPER AND WAS PRONE TO TANTRUMS
BUT IT WASN'T JUST ANGER, IT WAS ALSO FEAR
I COULD ONLY BELIEVE IN KAIN AND MEL'S PATIENT LOVE FOR ME
ERICA
KAIN AND MEL TOOK ME IN, EVEN KNOWING WHERE I'D COME FROM

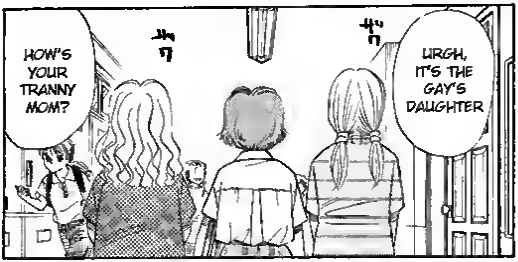
DO YOU... HATE ME?
I'M SO- RRY ...
RRY ...
ARE YOU GOING TO SHOW HIM THAT TEARY FACE?
ERICA, DAD WILL BE HOME SOON
LOVE ME?
VERY MUCH
OF COURSE NOT
TWO WONDERFUL DADS
I HAVE
ABOUT WHAT I CALL THEM; I DECIDED TO CALL KAIN 'DAD' AND MEL 'DADDY' ALL ON MY OWN
8 years old
MY FIRST LOVE WAS MEL
I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT MEN AS GENTLE AS HIM WERE A RARE FIND
SOMETIMES IT MAKES ME GO 'WHOA'
THEY'RE REALLY AFFECTIONATE TO EACH OTHER

E... ERICA?
?
AND I LEARNED THAT PEOPLE LIKE MEL AND KAIN WERE CALLED 'GAY'
THEY'RE REALLY IN LOVE WITH EACH-OTHER!!
HOW RUDE!!
I BECAME A BIT OF A CELEBRITY AT SCHOOL

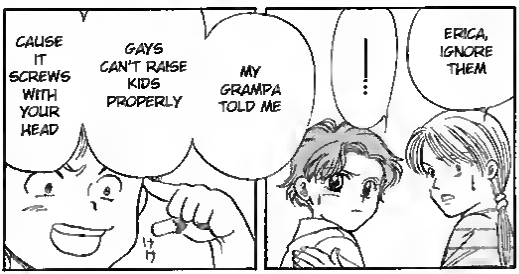

HE'D FILL THE STORIES WITH HIS VERY SPECIAL BRAND OF SARCASM,
KAIN USED TO TELL ME STORIES
THE QUEEN TURNED TO THE MIRROR AND STARTED YELLING
"SNOW WHITE'S STILL JUST A LITTLE GIRL! WHAT ARE YOU, SOME KIND OF PERVERT!?"


MY SECOND LOVE WAS KAIN
I THOUGHT THAT MEN AS GOOD-HUMOURED AND COOL AS HIM WERE HARD TO FIND

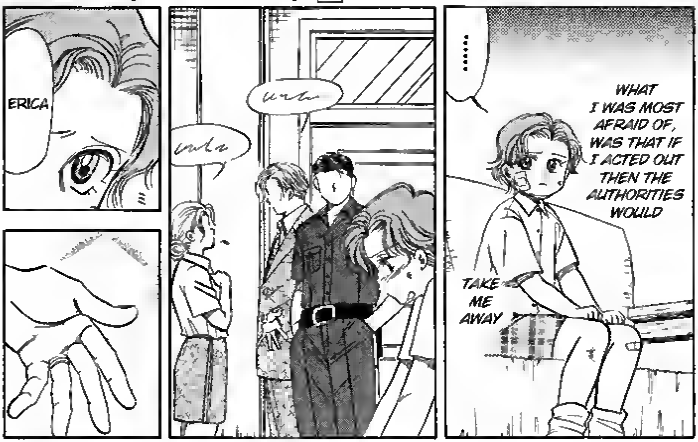

BETTER GET IN THERE QUICK, THEN. YOU WON'T FIND MANY NICE GUYS LIKE US
THAT'S ANOTHER JOKE
HE HE HE
I'M GOING TO MARRY SOMEONE LIKE YOU OR DADDY


HOW'S YOUR TRANNY MOM?
URGH, IT'S THE GAY'S DAUGHTER

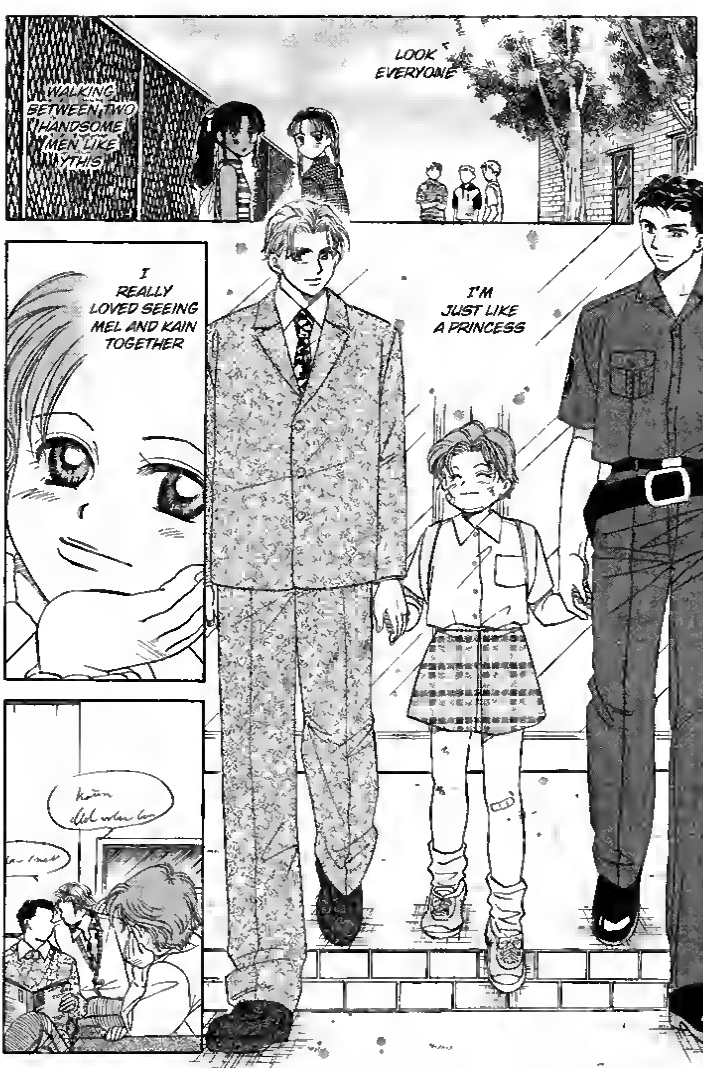
GRO-SS!
AREN'T THOSE FRECKLES ON YOUR FACE CAUSE YOU'RE SICK?


CAUSE IT SCREWS WITH YOUR HEAD
GAYS CAN'T RAISE KIDS PROPERLY
MY GRAMPA TOLD ME
!!!
ERICA, IGNORE THEM

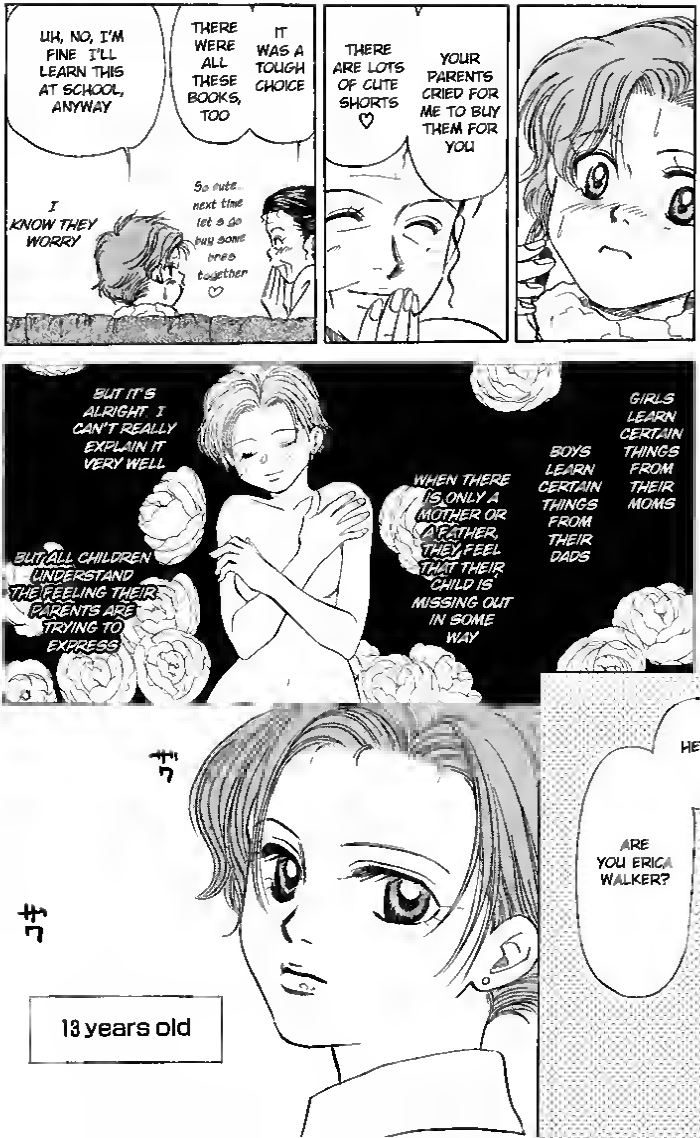
ERICA!!
Just ran out of patience
BUT NOT THAT DAY
WHENEVER I CAUSED PROBLEMS, IT WAS USUALLY GRANMA WHO CAME TO GET ME (SINCE MEL AND KAIN WERE WORKING)
I THOUGHT THAT THAT MEDDLING TEACHER HAD PROBABLY TOLD THEM WHY THE FIGHT HAD HAPPENED, BECAUSE DAD CAME STILL DRESSED IN HIS UNIFORM
I HAD TO WAIT A WHILE, BUT DAD AND DADDY BOTH CAME TO PICK ME UP


ERICA
WHAT I WAS MOST AFRAID OF, WAS THAT IF I ACTED OUT THEN THE AUTHORITIES WOULD TAKE ME AWAY

COME ON
LET'S GO HOME
LOOK
HEY, LOOK

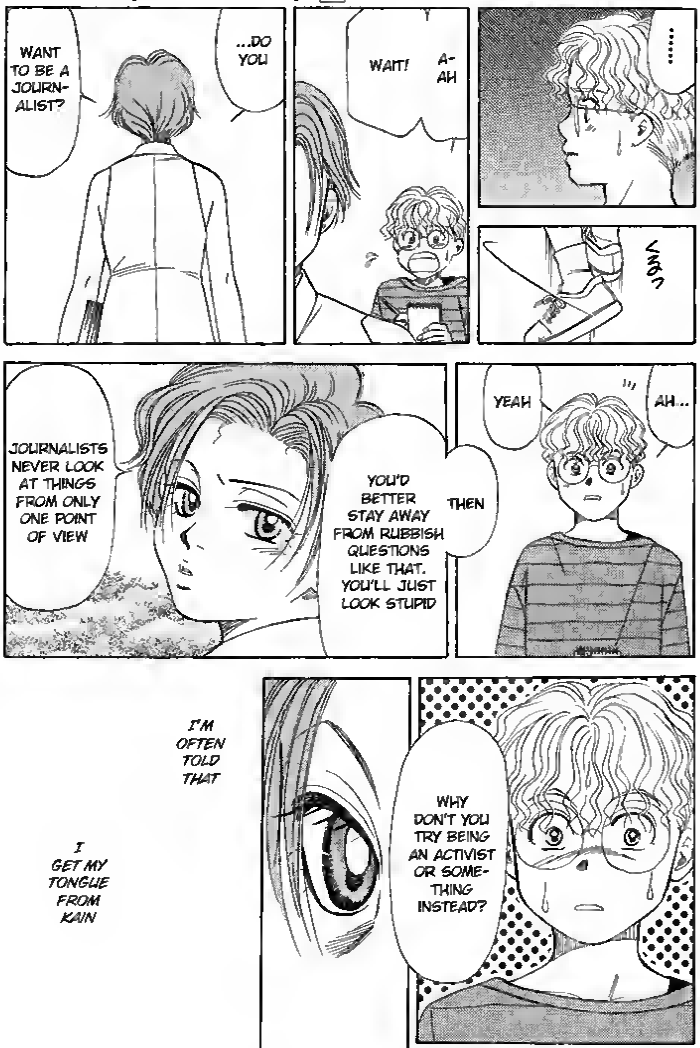

WALKING BETWEEN TWO HANDSOME MEN LIKE THIS!
LOOK, EVERYONE
I REALLY LOVED SEEING MEL AND KAIN TOGETHER
I'M JUST LIKE A PRINCESS

I WANT TO BE JUST LIKE THIS
WITH MY FUTURE HUSBAND
WHEREAS GRANPA AND KAIN TEND TO LET THINGS WORK THEMSELVES OUT
NO Problem
Don't worry
MEL AND GRANMA ARE VERY STRICT ABOUT THINGS
Make a plan!
No!! It's expensive
THEY'RE JUST AS LOVEY-DOVEY AS ANY YOUNG COUPLE
GRANMA AND GRANPA ARE ALSO LOVELY
FOR YOUR PER-IOD
HM?
ERICA
HERE

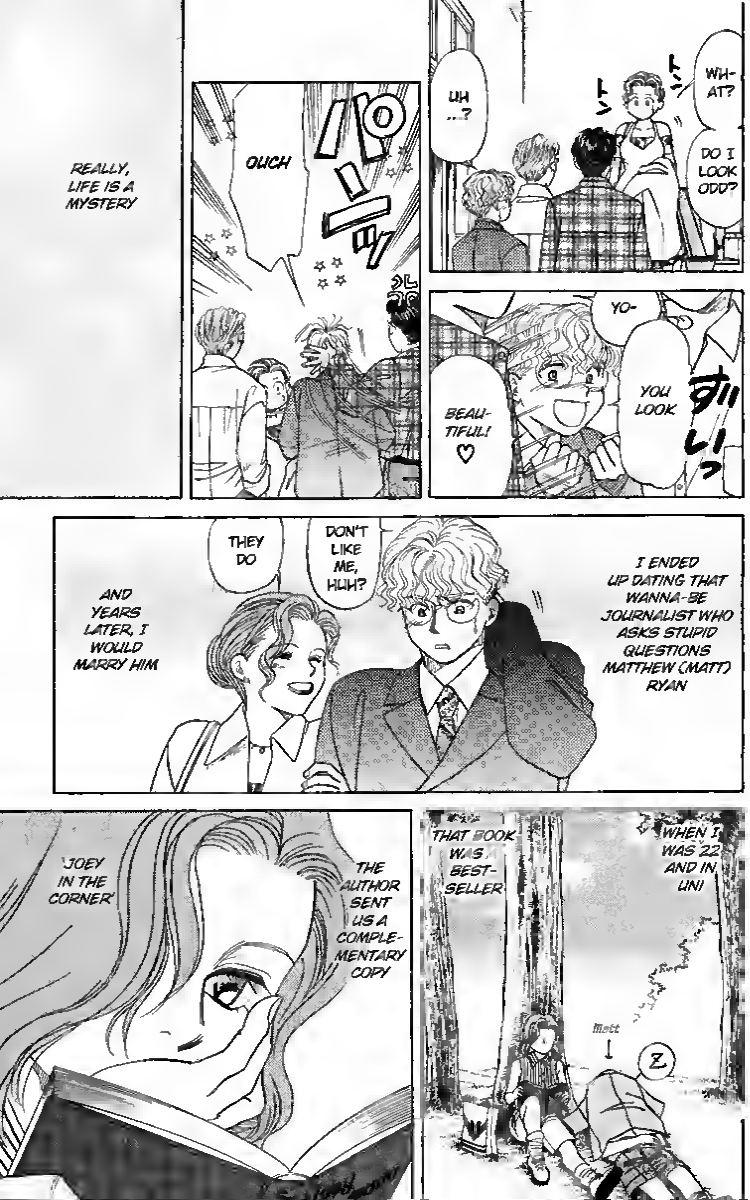

UH, NO, I'M FINE I'LL LEARN THIS AT SCHOOL, ANYWAY
THERE WERE ALL THESE BOOKS, TOO
IT WAS A TOUGH CHOICE
I KNOW THEY WORRY
So cute next time let's go buy some bras together ♡
THERE ARE LOTS OF CUTE SHORTS ♡
YOUR PARENTS CRIED FOR ME TO BUY THEM FOR YOU
BUT IT'S ALRIGHT I CAN'T REALLY EXPLAIN IT VERY WELL
BUT ALL CHILDREN UNDERSTAND THE FEELING THEIR PARENTS ARE TRYING TO EXPRESS
WHEN THERE IS ONLY A MOTHER OR A FATHER, THEY FEEL THAT THEIR CHILD IS MISSING OUT IN SOME WAY
BOYS LEARN CERTAIN THINGS FROM THEIR DADS
GIRLS LEARN CERTAIN THINGS FROM THEIR MOMS
3
7
HEY
ARE YOU ERICA WALKER?
13 years old

... WHAT?
AH,UM, ITS FOR THE SCHOOL PAPER
CAN I ASK YOU SOME QUEST-IONS?
.....
YES, DID YOU WANT SOME-THING?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?
YOU WERE RAISED BY A GAY COUPLE, RIGHT?
SO THEY ADOPTED YOU, RIGHT? BUT ISN'T THAT PRETTY SELFISH OF THEM?
WELL, THEY'RE GAY SO THEY CAN'T HAVE A CHILD OF THEIR OWN. BUT THEY STILL WANTED TO HAVE A CHILD
I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE ASKING
THEY'RE BEING GIVEN AFFECTION BY FAKE PARENTS
I THINK THAT ADOPTION WAS PUT IN PLACE FOR MARRIED STRAIGHT COUPLES WHO CAN'T HAVE CHILDREN. SO DOESN'T THIS GAY ADOPTION HURT THE CHILDREN?

DO I LOOK UNHAPPY?
OR PITIFUL?
LOOK AT ME
FAKE
THEY ARE NOT
I WASN'T LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE PARENTS
AND THEY WEREN'T LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE CHILDREN
I DON'T ANGST OVER HOW I'M 'MISSING' A MOTHER
I'M GRATEFUL THAT WE WERE LUCKY ENOUGH TO FIND EACH OTHER
I'M BLESSED TO HAVE WHAT I DO

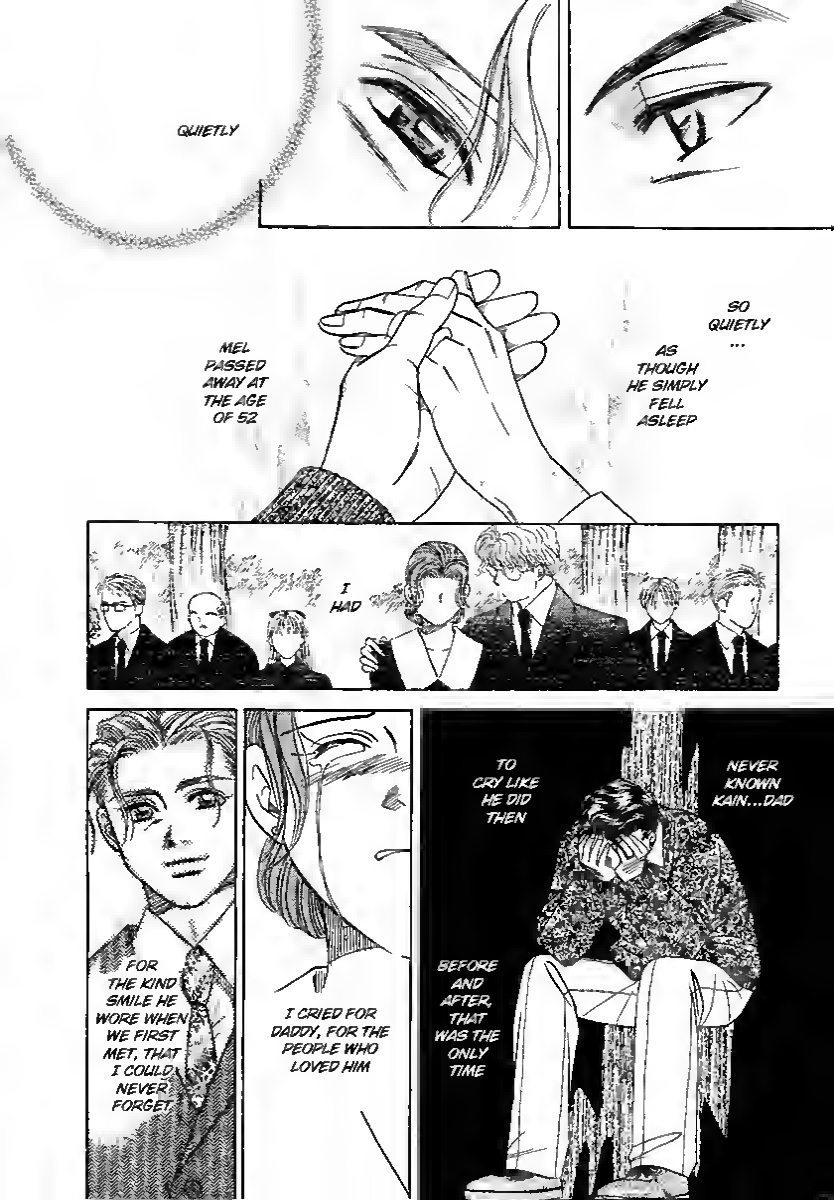

WANT TO BE A JOURN-ALIST?
...DO YOU
WAIT!
A-AH
.....
HUH?
JOURNALISTS NEVER LOOK AT THINGS FROM ONLY ONE POINT OF VIEW
YOU'D BETTER STAY AWAY FROM RUBBISH QUESTIONS LIKE THAT. YOU'LL JUST LOOK STUPID
THEN
YEAH
AH...
I'M OFTEN TOLD THAT
I GET MY TONGUE FROM KAIN
WHY DON'T YOU TRY BEING AN ACTIVIST OR SOME-THING INSTEAD?

DADDY AND DAD
I'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE SO FORMAL...
don't call me dad
THAT'S A BIT TOO CASUAL
N-NICE TO MEET YOU, I'M MATTHEW RYAN
I...EXCUSE MY FORWARD-NESS, BUT
I...I'D LIKE TO ACCOMPANY ERICA TO THE DANCE
.....
MATT
SORRY
TO KEEP YOU WAITING
ガッ
17 years old


REALLY, LIFE IS A MYSTERY
OUCH
UH ...?
WH-AT?
DO I LOOK ODD?
YO-
YOU LOOK
BEAU-TIFUL!
AND YEARS LATER, I WOULD MARRY HIM
THEY DO
DON'T LIKE ME, HUH?
I ENDED UP DATING THAT WANNA-BE JOURNALIST WHO ASKS STUPID QUESTIONS MATTHEW (MATT) RYAN
'JOEY IN THE CORNER'
THE AUTHOR SENT US A COMPLE-MENTARY COPY
THAT BOOK WAS A BEST-SELLER
WHEN I WAS 22 AND IN UNI
Matt
Z

THE NAMES WERE CHANGED, BUT MEL AND KAIN ALSO MADE AN APPEARANCE
THE SCENE WHERE THEY LET THEMSELVES FALL, HAND IN HAND, INTO THE RAPIDS MADE ME CRY SO HARD I COULDN'T STOP
ACTIONS OF A SERIAL KILLER CALLED JOEY KLINE, WHO'S ACTIONS ROCKED ALL OF AMERICA OVER 20 YEARS AGO
IT WAS A NON-FICTION NOVEL, BASED ON THE
THE AUTHORESS WAS A FORMER FBI INVESTIGATOR CALLED LUNA GARFIT (MAIDEN NAME PITTSBURG)
SEVERAL YEARS LATER IT WAS MADE INTO A MOVIE
IT MADE JOEY OUT TO BE SOME TRAGIC HERO (NO MATTER HOW TRAGIC, HE WAS NO HERO)
IN THE SPRING OF THE YEAR I TURNED 27, MATT AND I GOT MARRIED
AND THE FOLLOWING YEAR, TRAGEDY STRUCK

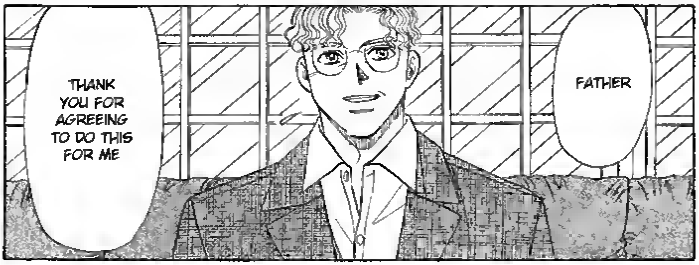
MEL SUFFERED KIDNEY FAILURE
WHEN IT ENTERED INTO THE FINAL STAGES, HE ASKED TO BE TREATED AT HOME
KAIN WAS DEVOTED, AND SPENT ALL HIS TIME LOOKING AFTER MEL
MEL ALSO SEEMED MORE AT EASE WITH KAIN THERE
MEL WOULD LOOK AT KAIN AS THOUGH HE WERE A BALM FOR HIS SOUL
KAIN WOULD SIT AND SING SONGS
THEY WOULD HOLD EACH OTHER'S HAND CONSTANTLY


QUIETLY
MEL PASSED AWAY AT THE AGE OF 52
SO QUIETLY ...
AS THOUGH HE SIMPLY FELL ASLEEP
I HAD
FOR THE KIND SMILE HE WORE WHEN WE FIRST MET, THAT I COULD NEVER FORGET
I CRIED FOR DADDY, FOR THE PEOPLE WHO LOVED HIM
TO CRY LIKE HE DID THEN
NEVER KNOWN KAIN...DAD
BEFORE AND AFTER, THAT WAS THE ONLY TIME

AND MY BELOVED GRANMA AT 88
MY KIND GRAMPA LEFT US AT 83
AND
MEL WALKER
ALL ALONE
EVENTUALLY, KAIN WAS LEFT LIVING IN THIS HUGE HOUSE
I CRIED FOR KAIN
..
ON HIS LEFT RING FINGER
HE STILL WORE THE SYMBOL OF HIS UNDYING FEELINGS
DO YOU HAVE TO? I'M ENJOYING THE PEACE AND QUIET
I DID ASK IF IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR US TO MOVE IN WITH HIM BUT
I GOT SHOT DOWN

MY HUSBAND MATT SUGGESTED THIS

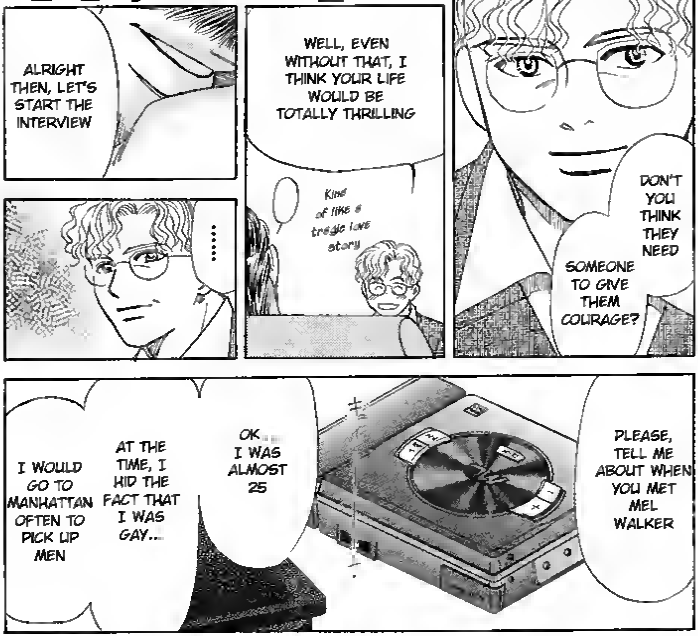
A FEW YEARS LATER



'I WANT TO WRITE... YOUR STORY, THE STORY OF YOU AND MEL'

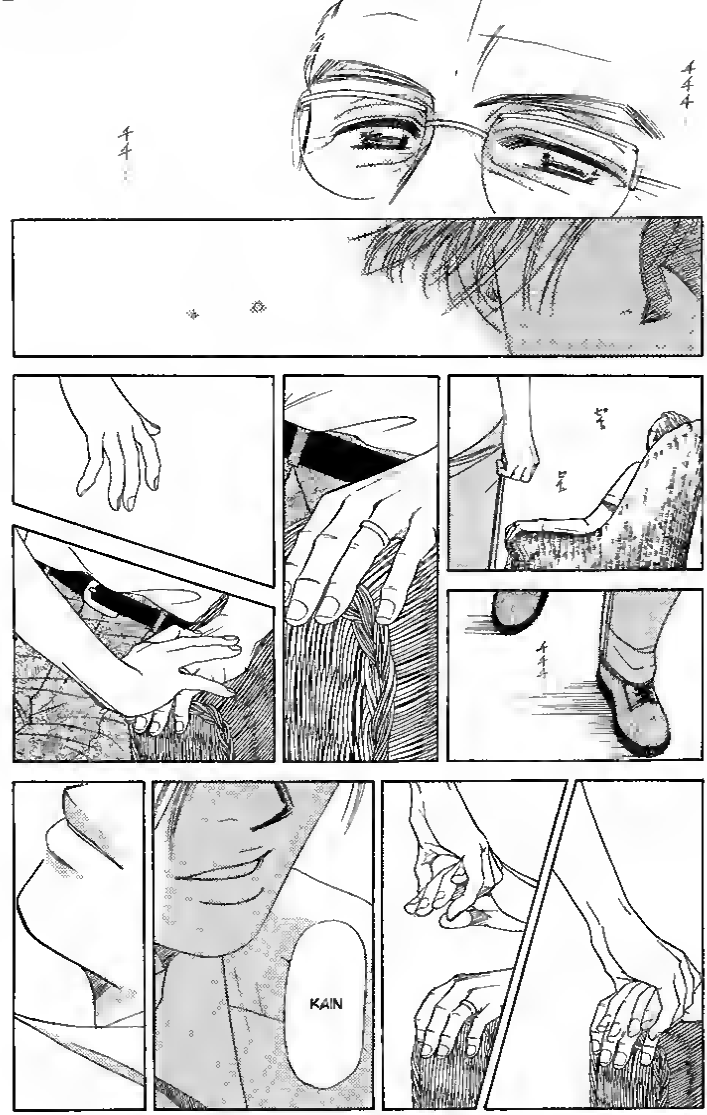
'I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS EVER SINCE I READ 'JOEY IN THE CORNER'

IT'S BEEN REPORTED THAT IN AMERICA RIGHT NOW, 30% OF THOSE WHO COMMIT SUICIDE ARE GAY
DON'T YOU KNOW?
IT WOULD ONLY APPEAL TO A SMALL MINORITY
WHAT WOULD BE THE POINT OF WRITING ABOUT US?
YOU'VE CHANGED


ALRIGHT THEN, LET'S START THE INTERVIEW
WELL, EVEN WITHOUT THAT, I THINK YOUR LIFE WOULD BE TOTALLY THRILLING
Kind of like a tragic love story
.....
DON'T YOU THINK THEY NEED SOMEONE TO GIVE THEM COURAGE?
PLEASE, TELL ME ABOUT WHEN YOU MET MEL WALKER
OK... I WAS ALMOST 25
AT THE TIME, I HID THE FACT THAT I WAS GAY...
I WOULD GO TO MANHATTAN OFTEN TO PICK UP MEN
WHEN I WAS HAVING A DRINK IN A SMALL BAR ON CHRISTOPHER STREET
HE QUIETLY PUSHED THE DOOR OPEN
I COULDN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF HIM
I MOVED TO SIT NEXT TO HIM, AND ASKED HIM IF HE WAS INTERESTED IN COMPANY FOR THE NIGHT
DID HE ACCEPT?
NOPE
HE TOLD ME

'I WON'T HAVE CASUAL SEX'
THAT'S THE KIND OF MAN MEL FREDRICKS WAS
AFTER THAT
THE NOVEL 'NEW YORK NEW YORK' WRITTEN BY MATTHEW RYAN ON THE LIVES OF MEL AND KAIN STARTED A SMALL MOVEMENT
IT DECORATED THE WINDOWS OF LARGE BOOK STORES FOR A LONG TIME
AND BECAME A MASTERPIECE OF THE GAY SCENE
DAD
DAD
WE'RE HAVING SPAGHETTI FOR LUNCH, WILL YOU HAVE SOME?

KAIN HAS BECOME VERY QUIET LATELY, HE BARELY TALKS AT ALL
YEAH ... ALRIGHT ...
JUST A LITTLE
PLE-ASE
.....
!
NOT HUN-GRY ..
IT WILL BE A BOY
I'M SURE HE WILL
IF IT'S A BOY, WE WERE THINKING OF CALLING HIM 'KAIN'
THIS IS MY DAUGHTER EMILY
GRAMPA IS GETTING ON A BIT NOW
I WONDER IF HE'LL SEE THE BIRTH OF THIS ONE?
HE SPENDS A LOT OF HIS TIME GAZING INTO THE DISTANCE...
THIS AMOUNT OF TIME I'VE BEEN WITHOUT MEL IS ALMOST AS MUCH AS THE TIME I SPENT WITH HIM...
KAIN HAS STARTED TO MENTION LATELY
AND THIS IS MY GRAND-SON, MEL
BECAUSE I WANT A LITTLE BROTHER !!


KAIN

IS IT
OK NOW?
YEAH

MEL
COULD YOU GO CALL GRAMPA KAIN FOR LUNCH, PLEASE?
KA-AY
GRAMPA KAIN
LU-NCH
HMM?
YOU SLEE-PIN?
GRA-MPA
GRAMPA?
KAIN WALKER DIED AGE 85

HE SLIPPED INTO A QUIET SLEEP
NOPE
HE TOLD ME
'I WON'T HAVE CASUAL SEX'
THAT'S THE KIND OF MAN MEL FREDRICKS WAS
... I SEE ...
AND THEN? WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION OF HIM?
HAHA.. I GUESS
I FELL IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

'JESUS'
'THIS MUST BE FATE...'
I THOUGHT

New York New York／THE END

New York² あれやこれ!!

Special 裏設定

「裏設定とは なんぞや?」とお思いになるかもしれませんが、まあこうして無事最終回も迎えた事ですし、最後にメルの過去の恋人達の ネタばらしに入りたいと思います。「メルの過去を描いて下さい」という御意見もありましたが いかんせん 彼の過去はどーにも不幸の連発なので、漫画にしても楽しくないし、何も救われませんので、こゆ形ではばらしたいと思います。作中で既に におわせ、若しくは出ちゃっているので、そこから抜粋させて説明したいと思います。これで何も分かって欲しいかと申しますと、「だからメルはあーゆ、たんだね」とか「こーゆーコトで病病になっちゃったんだね」という、より一層メルというキャラを理解出来るかも、という事です。 では!!

Go start!!

メルの過去の恋人	1巻 52, 53頁	「付き合ったのは…ケインを入れて 五人…でも長くても二年もたなかった」

ケインを省くと四人っちゃーことね。

恋人	巻/頁/コマ	出来事/セリフ等	チェックポイント
最初の恋人 名/? 歳/五十六十代 職業/大学教授	1巻 43頁	ダウンタウンの本屋にて偶然再会	驚き様から見ると相当久々に会ったっぽい
	1巻 44頁	「相変わらず 沢山の本だね」 「これしか 楽しみがないからね」	彼は本の虫
	1巻 45頁	「彼は…俺が荒んだ生活をしてた時に救ってくれたんだ だから 愛してるけど…恋人に持つ 愛してる じゃないんだ… 彼には…愛する奥さんと子供がいる…」 「彼はどっちかを選ぶ時 迷わず俺を捨てた」	※最大チェック!! 1巻18頁のジョッシュの口から語られるハスラー時代の話とこの下のエピソードに繋がる↓
	2巻 97頁 3コマ目	「出て行きなさい!! 汚らしい男娼風情が!! 愛人と呼ぶのもおぞましいわ!!」	この言ったこの女性は彼の奥様である。

真里茂の頭の中設定。

・男の名前はフィル。NY マンハッタンにある大学の教授である。自分はケイである事を否定しながら生きている。ある日 ハスラーのメルを買い メルの事を好きになってしまう。因みに 2巻99Pの4コマ目の中にある「君は…このままじゃいけないよ。私は

君を救いたい…それは恋とは違うのだろうか？「一緒に暮らさないか？」は彼、フィルの言葉である。フィルは妻帯者であるが　マンハッタンのウエストサイドに仕事場兼書庫としてアパートを借りており、そこにメルを住まわせる。この二人の関係は　先生と生徒に近かった。メルは「愛」よりも「尊敬」の念を彼に抱いていたと思う。既にご承知の様にメルの母親はセントラルパークでとくなっている。メルは近づく事さえ出来なかったセントラルパーク周辺を散歩する様になり　彼と共に足を踏み入れ　その過去と真正面に向かい合う事となる。フィルが机に座って本を読み　書き物をし　レポートに目を通したりする　その同じ空間の中にメルが居る　という生活が続く。そんな中フィルの妻が　事主がアパートに入りびたりになっている事等から怪しみ探偵を使って調査する。既に夫婦としての関係が冷めていたとはいえ　メルの存在を知った妻は怒り　アパートへ怒鳴り込み　メルを叱咤　罵倒し　ビンタまで喰らわす。その場で　妻はフィルに家に戻る事を要求し　彼はすごすごと扉を出て行く。取り残されたメルは　その後すぐアパートを飛び出す。フィルが翌日アパートに戻ると　メルの姿は既に無しという状況。1巻　39Pのメルのセリフ「妻子持ち？そーゆーの嫌いなんだ…みんな傷つく…」は　こーゆー事です。まっことこーゆーのはいけませんな。

恋人	巻/頁/コマ	出来事/セリフ等	チェックポイント
2番目の恋人 名、歳、職業 全て不明	1巻 51頁	ケインが帰って来ると　机の上に折り紙が 「…これは？鳥か？」 「それは…鶴だよ。日本人に教わったんだ。」 「付き合ってた…だろ？」	やきもちからペロ、と言ったケインのセリフだが　中々鋭い。 ピンポーン。
	2巻 99頁 4コマ目	「君は覚えているより自分はホモだって言えばいいじゃないか。隠していたって自分が苦しむだけだ」	本最大のヒント メルの彼に言ったセリフである

真里茂の頭の中設定。

男の名前はヨーイチ・イイシマ。日本人留学生で大学生である。メルがバイトとしていたレストランに彼もまたバイトとして入ってきて　そこで知り合う。可愛いかっこ　だが、メルよりは年上。当時メルは19歳、ヨーイチは21歳である。ヨーイチはドジでオボコしていたのでよく失敗をしては落ち込んでいた。メルはその彼をフォローし　慰める。ヨーイチは始め　メルが白人で金髪碧眼な上　外見があまりに綺麗すぎるので、一歩引いていたが　徐々に打ち解ける様になる。彼はRとL、BとV　TH発音が下手でメルから英語を教わる。そうこうしている内に親しくなっていき　一線を超えてしまう。共同生活に入るが　彼もフィル同様　ケインである事を認めたくない人であった日本からよくかかってくる親からの電話でも体裁を繕う。メルはヨーイチとの未来はないと　覚悟はしていた。数ヶ月後、二人に別れが訪れる。彼が悩んだ末　メルの事を親にそれとなく話してみた途端　日本に帰って来る様命じられたのだ。半ば強制に近いが　彼は大人しくそれに従う。彼は意志が弱いので、「お前はその男に騙されたんだ。はしかにかかっただけだ」と言う父親のセリフを信じようとする。「君にここにある物はあげるよ。落ちついたら連絡する」と言ってスーツケース

片手に 急な帰国をするユーイチと、メルは言い争いをする。結局ユーイチは立ち去り、その後メルは、部屋の物を全て置いてそこを出て行く。
メルがなぜ 自分の心を偽ったり 恋人の存在を隠したりする事を恐れ ケイの親に嫌われているはずだと思うのか ここから読み取って下さい。

恋人	巻/頁/コマ	出来事/セリフ等	チェック 恋人
3番目の恋人 名 歳 職業 全て不明	1巻 53頁 2コマ目	メルが過去の恋人の事を語る 「二週間で…終わった人もいた…」	何か問題があったらしい。
	1巻 180頁 8コマ目	「メルはハードセックスを嫌がる――というか拒えるんだが…」	本最大チェック!! 別れの理由に繋がるです。

真里茂の頭の中設定

男の名前はアラン。メルがマンハッタンを抜け出しブロンクスのジーンズ工場に勤めていた時に知り合う。アランの一方的な一目惚れである。当初メルはユーイチと別れたばかりで心の傷が癒えていなかったので、言い寄ってくるアランへの態度は冷たかった。だが、アランは今までの恋人達と違い、皆の前で告白したり抱きついたりとケイである事を隠そうとしない情熱的な男であった。徐々にメルも情に流されていき、心を開くようになっていく。体の関係を持ってから、2週間で彼と別れる事になるが、理由は性の不一致である。アランはサドであった。始めは彼も抑えようとしていた様だが徐々にセーブがきかなくなっていく。メルは義父や男娼生活からハードセックスに恐怖を感じるので、加減彼を受け入れる事は出来ない。苦しむアランは「一度だけ」とメルにハードプレイを頼む。メルは苦しむ彼の為にそれを受け入れる。だが、その数日後、彼の部屋のクローゼットから、レザーの服等を発見し、メルは偶然とする。アランはその手の店に通っていたため、二人は口論となる。2巻の99P4コマ目の「普通!?普通って一体なんだ!?これは俺には普通なんだ」とは彼の台詞である。彼の元を泣きながら去ろうとするメルに彼も又泣きながら、しがみ付き、こう言う、「分かってくれ、俺がやりたいのはお前だけなんだ。他の誰でも駄目なんだ。愛してるのはお前だけなんだ」(2巻99P4コマ目)メルは静かに首を振り出て行く。この段階でメルの方から去ったのは初めてであります。
メルはヒーヤら流されやすいタイプらしーです。押しに弱いってヤーかぁ。

4番目の恋人。ジョッシュについて。 こやつはもーハシハシなので、大まかに書かして下さいな。 ハフー… 疲れとるよ 私。

真里茂の頭の中設定

ジョシュア・ブロンソン、当時26歳、職業モデル。撮影スタジオでバイトしてたメルに 撮影モデルとして入ってたジョッシュがナンパ。その日の内に落とされてしまう早ワザ。一緒に暮らすがジョッシュは超浮気もん。そして超お気楽な男、だが時々神経過敏になったりする。詳しくは1巻を!!

あー疲れた。字はちがでっまんないページですねー。すいません。はい。

僕から君へ

「僕から君へ」を描いた時。

「僕から君へ」は91年に白泉社から出てる「メロディ」という雑誌に掲載された作品です。

91年は私にとって低迷の年でして「赤ちゃんと僕」を描き終わったかと思うとすぐ「いつでもお天気気分」の前後編を描いて「ニューヨーク」の連載始めて、その間に「僕から君へ」を描いたのでムチャクチャ頭の切り換えが難しくてグチャグチャしていました。

THAT WINTER DAY, NATSUKI DIED
TAKIZAWA ... HIROMU-SAN, ISN'T IT?
PLEASE, COME IN ..
THANK YOU FOR COMING, FOR NATSUKI'S SAKE
JUST TOO SUDDEN
IT WAS

MAY I SEE HIS FACE?
HM?
NATSUKI'S FACE ...
AH...YES, PLEASE...

HE LOOKED LIKE
HE WOULD HAVE WOKEN UP, IF I CALLED HIS NAME
AM I THE ONLY VISITOR?
THERE'S ONLY WE TWO
.....
ISN'T HE STILL BEAUTIFUL? I CAN'T BELIEVE... HE'S REALLY..
THIS IS NATSUKI'S ADDRESS BOOK...
YOUR NAME IS THE ONLY ONE
EH?
HERE?
THERE'S ALSO A TORN PAGE FROM A MAGAZINE TUCKED IN IT..

I THINK HE WOULD HAVE WANTED YOU TO HAVE IT
HE COULD BE UNPRED-ICTABLE SOME-TIMES
?
MAY I ASK ... UM ...
WHAT YOU WERE TO HIM...?
... I WAS ...
I WAS
HIS LOVER
OH ...
OHH!! THAT WAS TSUBAME-SAN!!
WHAT AM I SO SURPRISED ABOUT? HE'S ALWAYS HAD THAT DEVIL-MAY-CARE ATTITUDE
HOW AWKWARD, SHE'S ALMOST THE SAME AGE AS OUR MOTHERS
EVEN TO THE VERY END

HE LIVED A LIFE I COULDN'T APPROVE OF . . .
The doors are now closing
!?
AH .. THE PIECE OF PAPER . . .
WHAT'S THIS? TOKYO, OUMI NATUKI TITLED 'FROM ME TO YOU' . . .
UWAAA, THAT'S SO OUT OF CHARACTER . . . HE WROTE A "POEM"
MY NOSE IS RUN-NING . . .
NOW I THINK OF IT, I LAST SAW HIM OVER TWO MONTHS AGO
24
WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER A LONG TIME
HE DIED FAR TOO YOUNG
AH . .

TODAY WE HAVE A NEW STUDENT JOINING US. THIS IS TAKIZAWA HIROMU-KUN
N-NICE TO MEET YOU..
A MOUNTAIN TOWN IN TOUHOKU
I WAS TERRIFIED
HIROMU-KUN HAS COME FROM YOKOHAMA DUE TO HIS FATHER'S WORK
LET'S ALL GIVE HIM A WARM WELCOME
15 YEARS AGO, SECOND YEAR OF ELEMENTARY
MY MEMORIES OF NATSUKI START HERE
HEARING OF HIS DEATH
AND SEEING HIS FACE
THE TEARS JUST WON'T COME
I SUPPOSE IT'S BECAUSE
THAT STRANGELY ALIVE FACE . .
CALLS TO MY SENSES
AND MY MEMORIES OF HIM...

I WANT TO GO HOME...
I WAS A REALLY SHY KID
I COULDN'T TAKE THE CHANCE TO GET TO KNOW ANYONE..
HIROMU
I KNOW YOUR HOUSE, IT'S NEAR MINE
QUICKLY BECAME ISOLATED
AND I
LET'S GET THE NEW KID, TOO
HE'LL JUST SAY NO
WE'RE GOING TO PLAY DODGE-BALL IN THE COURTYARD, COME ON
YEP
RE-REALLY?
LET'S BE FRIENDS, HIROMU
I'M NAT-SUKI
OUMI NATSUKI
C'mon, Natsuki!
O-OK

.....
Really happy
THAT DAY WAS ENOUGHT TO CONVINCE ME THAT NATSUKI WAS THE BOSS OF THE CLASS
A CHILD'S WORLD IS VERY SMALL, AND NATSUKI WAS A LARGE PART OF MINE
NUMBER 1, OUMI NATSUKI !!
SINGING SEIKO-CHAN !!
はあるさの 表通に のぐそっ
海につれてってよ ——♫
YOU BRATS!!
YOU AGAIN!!
Run!
Uh-oh
YOU LITTLE !!
UWA
WHAT DO WE DO? GO BACK?
HELP
HE GOT HIROMI!

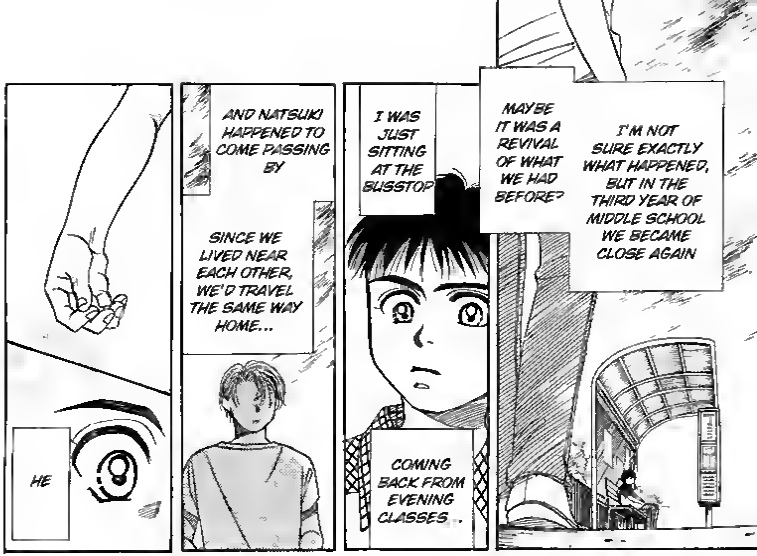
NATSUKI WAS THE SORT TO ABANDON OTHERS EASILY
LATER
WHAT A KLUTZ!
I'M CALLING YOUR PARENTS!!
NAT-SUKI !
NATSUKI !!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THESE GREENHOUSES COST!?
OOTA-SAN SAID THAT NATSUKI-KUN WAS ONE OF THE ONES WHO RAN AWAY, HE PROBABLY DRAGGED HIROMU INTO IT
WHAT? HE SEEMS TO BE GETTING INTO SO MUCH TROUBLE LATELY
??
DEAR, HIROMU WAS CAUGHT JUMPING ON THE TOP OF OOTA-SAN'S GREENHOUSE ...
YOU'RE BOTH STUPID!!
DON'T TALK BAD ABOUT NATSUKI!!!
HIROMU, WEREN'T YOU ASLEEP?
WELL WHEN YOU LOOK AT WHO HIS FATHER IS, IS IT THAT SURPRIS-ING?

HIROMU
YOU GOT ANY MONEY?
YE-YEAH 100YEN
OK, LET'S GET SOME ICE CREAM
I'LL HAVE BOOBY ICE
¥50
MOM WILL TELL ME OFF IF I SPEND IT ALL
YOU GET A NEAPOLITAN THEN
¥30
LET'S SPLIT A PAPIKO
¥60
大石商店
FROM AN OUTSIDER'S POINT OF VIEW, IT PROBABLY LOOKED LIKE HE WAS USING ME
BUT I NEVER THOUGHT THAT, AND NATSUKI PROBABLY NEVER THOUGHT THAT EITHER
NATSUKI WAS EITHER LOVED OR HATED, AND THE MAJORITY OF ADULTS HATED HIM
NATSUKI LIVED WITH HIS FATHER IN A LONG BUNGALOW
HIS FATHER HAD A PROBLEM
HE WAS AN ALCOHOLIC
OCCASIONALLY HE'D WORK AS A LABOURER DURING THE DAY, BUT I THINK MOST OF THE MONEY HE MADE HE SPENT ON HIS ADDICTION

NATSUKI WAS REALLY POOR
O-OK
IT'S FINE
JUST GO HOME
BASTARD OLD MAN
SORRY HIROMU, WE CAN'T STUDY TOGETHER
SINCE HE'S LIKE THIS
LET'S DO THE HOMEWORK AT MY HOUSE
SHOULD WE CARRY HIM TO THE FUTON?
I HEARD THAT HIS MOTHER HAD RUN AWAY WHEN HE WAS LITTLE
BECAUSE SHE WAS SICK OF HER HUSBAND'S DRINKING AND BEING USELESS, AND HIS VIOLENCE
SHE COULDN'T TAKE IT, SO SHE ABANDONED EVERYTHING AND RAN AWAY
SHE EVEN LEFT NATSUKI ...
I USED TO WISH SO HARD THAT THE BRUISES HE WORE WEREN'T FROM HIS FATHER, BUT JUST FROM HIS OWN UNPREDICTABLE PERSONALITY
AH
AHH, IT'S SNOWING!

HUH? WHERE IS THIS?
MN
NEXT STOP
SHINAGAWA
AHHH.. I WENT TOO FAR... AKIHABARA..
GUESS IT'LL PILE UP?
YOU DON'T WANT IT TO?
WINTER WAS THAT?
WHICH...
THE SNOWBALL FIGHT
OUR CLASSMATE TAKAHASHI-SAN WAS HIT BY A SNOWBALL
AND STARTED BLEEDING
NO-ONE EVER DOUBTED IT WAS NATSUKI
WE NEVER CONFIRMED WHO DID IT, BUT BY THE TIME WE GRADUATED HIS TIME AS 'BOSS' HAD COME TO AN END
THERE WAS A ROCK INSIDE THE SNOWBALL...
AND EVEN I HAD SLOWLY STOPPED TALKING TO HIM

MOM, THE YOLKS ARE HARD
THEN MAKE YOUR OWN!!
BECOME VIOLENT
KIDS RAISED BY VIOLENT PARENTS
BY THE TIME I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, NATSUKI AND I WERE STRANGERS
THAT NATSUKI-KUN! WHENEVER I GO SHOPPING IN TOWN HE'S THERE WITH THE THUGS!
WHO AM I TALKING ABOUT?
SOMETIMES WE'D PASS EACH OTHER AT SCHOOL
HE'D ALWAYS HAD A FAIR COMPLEXION
BUT NOW HE HAD REAL BLOND HAIR
HIS DELINQUENCY WAS KNOWN EVEN IN THE OTHER SCHOOLS IN THE AREA
HE WAS IN A TOTALLY DIFFERENT WORLD


I'M NOT SURE EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED, BUT IN THE THIRD YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL WE BECAME CLOSE AGAIN
MAYBE IT WAS A REVIVAL OF WHAT WE HAD BEFORE?
I WAS JUST SITTING AT THE BUSSTOP
COMING BACK FROM EVENING CLASSES ..
AND NATSUKI HAPPENED TO COME PASSING BY
SINCE WE LIVED NEAR EACH OTHER, WE'D TRAVEL THE SAME WAY HOME...
HE

HEY
HIROMU!!
JUST CALLED OUT TO ME SO NATURALLY ..

I WONDER IF HE KNEW? WHEN HE CALLED OUT TO ME, HE MADE SURE NOT TO BREAK THE PEACE AND QUIET. THE TRUTH IS, IF HE'D RAISED HIS VOICE I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE RUN FOR IT
NATSUKI
HEY
SO I DIDN'T EVEN THINK
HIROMU!!
HIROMU!
YEAH?
YEAH ... WE'RE OLD FRIENDS
YOU WERE JUST TALKING WITH CLASS TWO'S OUMI AT THE LOCKER, RIGHT!?
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT. YOU USED TO COPY HIM WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE
LIKE I WOULD!
HIROMU, IF YOU GO BLOND I'M KICKING YOU OUT!!
NEITHER MY FRIENDS NOR MY MOTHER WERE VERY HAPPY
DON'T LET HIM DRAG YOU DOWN HIS ROAD
'OLD FRIENDS'!? YOU'VE NEVER ACTED LIKE THAT BEFORE!?
I'LL BE FINE ...

PFFT
KU KU KU
AH HA HA HA
KU KU
IF YOU'RE GOING TO LIGHT UP IN SOMEONE ELSE'S ROOM AT LEAST ASK FIRST!!
YOUR CIGARETTE!! I CAN'T STAND THE SMELL!!
HUH?
NATSUKI CAN YOU PLEASE PUT THAT OUT?
OK SORRY
WAS ME MENTIONING IT
YET ALL IT TOOK
APPL TEA
AND SITTING NEXT TO ME READING MANGA AND LAUGHING SO CASUALLY WHEN I WAS STUDYING
BUT HAVING HIM - A MINOR - LIGHTING UP SO NATURALLY
ACTUALLY, MY DAD SMOKED SO I WAS PRETTY USED TO THE SMELL
REALLY ANNOYED ME...

ALL MY REPORT CARDS HAVE HAD ARE CHIMNEYS AND DUCKS
All ones and twos
WELL, I CAN'T GO... I CAN'T AFFORD IT, AND I SKIPPED TOO MANY CLASSES
HUH!? WH- WHY NOT!?
THE SEASONS CHANGED, SUMMER TO AUTUMN . .
Even more ticked off
.....
HIGH SCHOOL? NOT FOR ME
I'M PRETTY GOOD AT MATH
MAYBE HE COULD GET INTO THE LOW-EST RANK SCHOOL?
AH, IT'S FINE! THE POINT IS MOTIVA-TION, RIGHT?
YOU'VE ONLY EVER GOT BASIC MARKS!?
WH... NOW?
TEACH ME
HIR-OMU
Never gotten less than a four (Fivs is the norm)
!!
... then apply to x and y ...
Ah, then you get the gradient, ohh
STUDYING TOGETHER WAS A BIT SURPRISING
THINK OF THE PAIN IT'S GONNA BE FOR ME!
NATSUKI MADE HIS MIND UP PRETTY FAST, AND HE NEVER PAID ANY MIND TO THE FACT THAT THIS WOULD REDUCE MY STUDY TIME

AH, NATSUKI-KUN
COME AND HAVE DINNER
I FOUND I MASTERED THE BASICS MYSELF
AND, IN TEACHING HIM FROM THE BASICS UP
HE WAS A PRETTY GOOD STUDENT
HIS ATTITUDE AND CONCENTRATION WERE PRETTY BAD, BUT
HE WAS THE KIND OF GUY WHO COULD DO ANYTHING IF HE TRIED
HOW ABOUT HOME TIME?
HEY, BREAK TIME?
PASS ME YOUR CLOTHES, I'LL WASH THEM WHILE YOU'RE IN THE BATH
NATSUKI-KUN
自分が強いのか弱いのか、勉強の方向はどうなのか、HOW I STUDIED, AND SHORTENED THE PROCESS
THAT WAS GOOD
さっぱ。
HAH...
ホコ
ホコ
YO-YOU'RE GETTING ALONG *TOO* WELL...
THAT'S CAUSE HE'S A CHIBI
HIROMU CAN'T WEAR THEM, HE'S TOO SMALL
AH, MY HUSBANDS CLOTHES FIT PERFECTLY
あはははは

DURING THAT TIME, MY MOTHER AND FATHER, WHO USUALLY BAD-MOUTHED NATSUKI, FELL FOR HIS 'MEEK ACT'
HE'S TOTALLY PLAYING THEM
ガタン
ME...
EXCUSE ME
ガタン
EXCUSE ME
DO YOU MIND?
ガタン
ガタン
UM... I'D LIKE TO SIT DOWN BUT YOUR LEGS...
HUH!? AH.. SORRY!
大股開き
ガタン
.....
ガタン
IT SEEMED THAT MY PARENTS PITIED NATSUKI
LOOKS LIKE I'VE GONE PAST THE STOP AGAIN
NATSUKI'S SITUATION AT HOME WAS WELL-KNOWN
I WONDER
FEEDING HIM, LETTING HIM USE OUR BATH...
WHICH NUMBER STOP I'M AT NOW

DECEMBER
FOUR MONTHS SINCE WE STARTED STUDYING
UM..
IS NATSUKI IN?
HE WAS AN OPTIMIST
BUT NO
DIDN'T HE TELL ME?
'THAT WAS THE HAPPIEST TIME OF MY LIFE'
IF IT WAS ME, I WOULD HAVE HATED THAT PITY
BUT NATSUKI IS SO LAID-BACK THAT I DOUBT HE EVEN NOTICED
IT HAD BEEN A WHILE SINCE I SAW NATSUKI'S FATHER. HE STILL STANK OF ALCOHOL
HE AIN'T A GOOD LITTLE BRAT WHO COMES HOME ON TIME EVERY DAY
LIKE I'D KNOW
MAYBE HE'S BURIED IN SOME GIRLS CUNT OR MOUTH?
HE WAS A LOT THINNER
NATSUKI DIDN'T SHOW UP
NO-PE
WHY? WHAT'S HE GONE AND DONE NOW?
NO-THING
DO YOU KNOW WHERE HE IS?

NATSUKI WAIT!!
サク
I CAN'T HELP THAT, SCHOOL'S THE ONLY PLACE I CAN GET A HOLD OF YOU!
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT!?
WAITING TO JUMP ME AT THE GATE!? FUCKING CREEP!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR STUDYING !?
サク
NATSUKI !
サク
I... CAN'T BE BOTHERED
IT'S JUST A PAIN
YOU ARE... GOING? ISN'T THAT WHY WE'VE BEEN STUDYING TOGETHER ..?
!
HIGH SCHOOL?
YOU'RE GOING TO HIGH SCHOOL RIGHT!? THEN YOU NEED TO GET SERIOUS ...

I WAS SO MAD
MORE THAN I'D EVER BEEN BEFORE
WHEN HE SAID THAT, BY BLOOD STARTED TO BOIL
A PAIN !?
LAT-ER
WHY DID HE ALWAYS TURN HIS BACK ON ME SO EASILY!?
WHAT WAS MY EFFORT FOR?
サク
サク
YOU'RE ALWAYS USING ME!
EVER SINCE WE WERE LITTLE!!
ピュオオオ：
HE ...
YOU JUST RUN OFF AND GET INTO FIGHTS, YOU DON'T CARE HOW MUCH I WORRY!? YOU REALLY ARE A DELINQUENT!!
WHAT THE HELL'S WITH THOSE BRUISES !?
サク
サク
NATSUKI !!
YOU'RE SUCH A FUCKING BASTARD !!

HE DIDN'T COME BACK WHEN WINTER HOLIDAYS ENDED
AND HE WASN'T AT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY
JUST LEFT, AS I WAS SCREAMING AT HIM
IT SEEMS THAT THE GIRL WAS PREGNANT WITH NATSUKI'S CHILD
IT WAS A HARD TRUTH FOR ME
WITH AN OLDER GIRL FROM A NEARBY TOWN, FEW MONTHS BEFORE WE GRADUATED
WHEN!? WITH WHO!?
HER PARENTS ARE SO PISSED OFF, THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT SUING HIM
HIROMU
SEEMS LIKE NATSUKI RAN OFF WITH SOME GIRL
WHUH!?
THREE MONTHS LATER, ONE OF MY FRIENDS TOLD ME WHAT HAPPENED
WHEN I MOVED ON TO MY NEW SCHOOL, I DIDN'T REALLY THINK OF NATSUKI AT ALL ANYMORE, AND STARTED TO ENJOY MY STUDENT LIFE
I WAS IN THE TENNIS CLUB
BUT AFTER A COUPLE OF MONTHS, THE TALK STARTED TO FADE
IT WAS ALL THE TOWN AND SCHOOL WOULD TALK ABOUT

THE SUMMER OF MY THIRD YEAR
HIROMU
MITSUKO-SAN?
SEEMS LIKE 'MITSUKO-SAN' IS BACK
I FELL IN LOVE
LEARNING ABOUT HOW FIRST KISSES TASTED OF LEMON AND ALL THOSE OTHER THINGS MADE MY HEART THROB
THE UNI. PREP. STUDIES KEPT ME BUSY
THE SPORTS FESTIVAL AND CULTURE FESTIVAL WERE NOISY
THE END OF SEASON TENNIS WAS HARD
I WAS
REALLY SHOCKED, AND I THOUGHT OF NATSUKI
YOU KNOW, THE GIRL NATSUKI RAN OFF WITH
HAD
INCREDIBLY PALE SKIN ...
THE GIRL SITTING ON THE BENCH
WHEN I WAS WONDERING ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO NATSUKI AND THE CHILD, I HAPPENED TO SEE HER AT THE STATION
BUT SHE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAME BACK
HUH?
HEY
THERE SHE IS

HIROMU!
COME HELP ME WITH THE BAGS!
HIS FATHER DIED THAT WINTER
I NEVER ASKED ABOUT NATSUKI..
NATSUKI-KUN'S FATHER PASSED AWAY. I WAS SHOCKED
YEAH, WHAT HAPPENED?
HEY, DID YOU HEAR THE AMBULANCE JUST NOW?
IF NATSUKI WILL BE SAD?
PITIFUL MAN...
AND WITH BOTH HIS SON AND WIFE RUN AWAY... IT'S HIS OWN DOING..
YEAH...
I WONDER
IT'S SO COLD, HE MUST HAVE FROZE TO DEATH
IT SEEMS HE GOT DRUNK AND FELL ASLEEP OUTSIDE
...HUH?

HMM ...
WHEN DID I SEE HIM AGAIN?
OH, YEAH..
IT WAS THE SUMMER I CAME HERE
I WAS WAITING AT THE LIGHTS .. AND THEY CHANGED ...
IN THE COUNTRY WE'D WALK IN SNOW LIKE THIS ...
I GUESS I HAVEN'T SINCE I CAME TO TOKYO ..
IT'S BEEN ...18, 19, 20... 6 YEARS SINCE I CAME HERE .. TIME SURE GOES FAST..
AH ...
I DON'T RECOGNISE ANYONE ..
THE SNOW .. IS PILING UP

AND THEN ...
COMING TOWARDS ME..
S'UP
HIROMU

JUST APPEARED AND CALLED MY NAME
NATSUKI
HUH, SO YOU'RE COMING TO TOKYO?
UH? THAT'S IMPRESSIVE!
AND IN THAT MOMENT THE YEARS WE SPENT APART JUST VANISHED
WHAT?
NATSUKI, DID YOU KNOW?
YE-YEAH, THEY'RE WELL
HEY, HOW ARE YOUR PARENTS? THEY WELL?
WELL ... ANY-THING REALLY
WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW, NATSUKI?
YEAH, BUT NO-ONE I KNOW DID
NOT REALLY, EVERYONE I KNOW DID THE SAME
THAT YOUR FATHER ...
DIED ..

HIS FACE NEVER CHANGED EXPRESSION, AND I COULDN'T TELL WHAT HE WAS FEELING
HE SAT QUIETLY AS I TOLD HIM WHAT HAD HAPPENED
ふん
HE SAID QUIETLY
だ…最後…親父…THAT父…最後…WAY HE WANTED TO GO…
方が死…亜樹ら LIKE の
.....
THE KID. YOU BROKE UP WITH IT'S MOTHER, RIGHT?
HM?
NATSUKI ..WHAT ABOUT THE KID?
IT DIED
UNFORTUNATELY, YOU'RE QUITE FAMOUS BACK HOME
JEEZE ...
WHY DO YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT IT?

I DIDN'T HAVE A JOB, SO LIFE WAS HARD AND SHE WAS DEPRESSED
AND THEN WHEN THE KID DIED? SHE BECAME NEUROTIC
DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME? IT DIED
WHAT DO YOU CALL IT? WHEN THEY DIE SUDDENLY FOR NO REASON
... WHAT?
CALM? REALLY?
IT WAS REALLY HARD
.. YOU ... SEEM PRETTY CALM ABOUT IT
JUST A PEN
WRITE IT ON THIS
HE PULLED OUT A NAPKIN
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT
WHENEVER ANYTHING BAD HAPPENED, HE'S DISTANCE HIMSELF FROM IT
HEY, WHERE ARE YOU LIVING? GIMME YOUR ADDRESS
AH, I DON'T HAVE ANY PAPER ...
SHE WAS REALLY CUTE, THAT LITTLE GIRL
I WAS FATHER TO A CHILD
YEAH ...
THAT'S RIGHT

I HAVE A PAGER THOUGH-O!! THIS IS HARD TO WRITE WITH
I DON'T HAVE ONE
I HAD A MECHANICAL PENCIL, AND TRYING TO WRITE WITH IT MADE MYEYEBROWS DRAW DOWN
WELL, I'LL GET GOING
AH, MY HALF...
NO PROB, MY TREAT
PAGER? WHY NOT A PHONE?
WHAT'S YOURS?
I'LL GIVE YOU MY NUMBER, TOO
NATSUKI, COME OVER WHEN-EVER YOU'RE FREE
IS WHAT I SAID
DO I HAVE TO HAVE ONE?
BUT I WAS MAINLY BEING POLITE
SURE
!!
SEVE-RAL DAYS LATER

THAT HAD NOTHING BUT MY ADDRESS IN IT...
NOW I THINK OF IT, THAT ADDRESS BOOK THAT THAT LADY SHOWED ME
カタン
IT SEEMED LIKE HE BOUGHT IT JUST SO HE COULD PUT IN MY ADDRESS
RATHER THAN IT BEING SOMETHING HE ALREADY HAD, TO WRITE THINGS IN
I WONDER WHY
I GET THAT IMAGE IN MY MIND
カタン
カタン
カタン
HEY, HIROMU
PRESENT
たこちゃん
THERE'S NO POLITE WAY TO ASK NATSUKI THINGS

IT STILL HAD THE STORE'S BARCODE
THAT WAS SO LIKE NATSUKI THAT HE COULDN'T BE BOTHERED TO TAKE IT OFF
RUSH HOUR ALREADY...
MY BLACK SUIT REALLY STANDS OUT..
A gift hanging from the handle
ハナマルマート
HE DID TRY AFTER THAT FOR A WHILE, BUT THERE WAS ONLY A 50% CHANCE HE WOULD DO IT
夏目乙上
notes
And because he still smoked lots of these
WHENEVER I CAME BACK TOO SOON AND HE'D GOTTEN TIRED OF WAITING, THERE'D BE SIGNS HE WAS THERE
NATSUKI WOULD JUST SHOW UP WITHOUT ANY NOTICE
I WOULD GET MAD AT HIM AND TELL HIM TO CALL ME FIRST

GIMME A KEY
WHAT ARE YOU, MY GIRL-FRIEND!?
YOU'RE SO COLD
IN TRUTH
I DIDN'T REALLY TRUST HIM
I FELT REALLY UNCOMFORTABLE ABOUT HIM JUST LETTING HIMSELF IN
JEEZE
WHEN I WAS MOVING UPTO MY SECOND YEAR OF UNI. A 'MISS' MOVED NEXT DOOR
SHE'S SO HOT!
YEAH ...
HAVEN'T YOU TALKED TO HER?
NOPE
MY FRIENDS FROM UNI... USED TO CALL HER 'MADONNA'
AFTER THAT
HEY, HIROMU

YOU'RE FINALLY BACK
I'M COMING OVER

HE GOT A HOLD OF 'MADONNA'S' KEY PRETTY QUICKLY
C'MON, JEEZE

BUDGE
THAT'S MY SEAT
OW

I WAS SPEECHLESS...

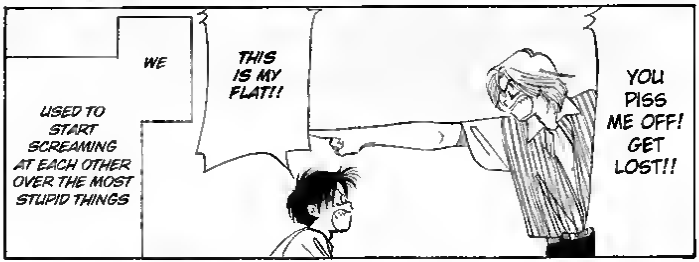
You're doing? At least stay till I go to work
Sorry, later
Hey

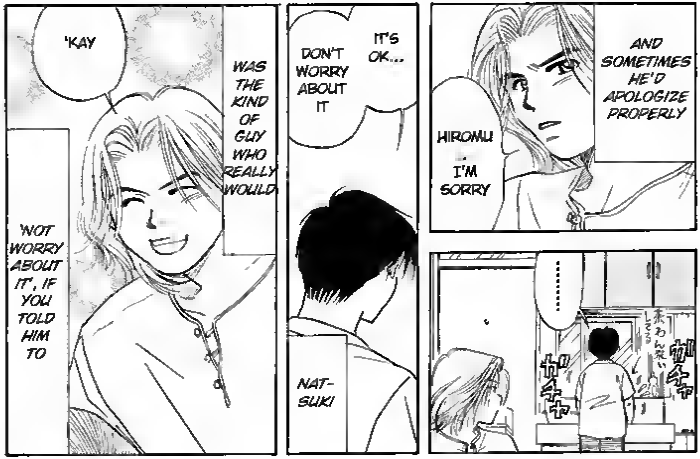
BUT HE ALSO DID THAT WITH OTHER GIRLS, TOO... I NEVER UNDERSTOOD THAT
I BECAME MORE AWARE THAN BEFORE THAT HE HAD A GIRL HE WAS WITH
DON'T RUN TO ME WHEN YOU DROP YOURSELF IN IT!!

6 Ch.
WHENEVER I TOOK TOO DEEP A BREATH, HE WOULD SMELL LIKE HER PERFUME
AND HE HAD KISS-MARKS ON HIS THROAT

TELL ME HIS NUMBER AND ADDRESS?
HEY, YOU'RE NATSUKI'S FRIEND, RIGHT?
YES... GOOD MORNING...
OFF TO SCHOOL?
GOOD MORNING
WE'D NEVER SPOKEN BEFORE
JUST AS I WAS ENTERING INTO MY THIRD YEAR
THE RENT ON MY APARTMENT WENT UP, SO I LET MY LEASE EXPIRE AND MOVED OUT
AND THERE HE WAS, WAITING IN FRONT OF MY DOOR
JEEZE ... SERVES HIM RIGHT
YOU DON'T KNOW ?
C'MON, TELL ME...
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M UP TO ANYTHING ..
PLEASE
SHE WAS SERIOUS

WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS LIKE THIS!?
AT LEAST REPLACE THE STUFF YOU EAT!!
SHUT UP ALREADY !!
I'LL KICK YOUR ASS!
LEARN SOME MANNERS, WOULD YOU!!
NAT-SUKI !!


WE USED TO START SCREAMING AT EACH OTHER OVER THE MOST STUPID THINGS
THIS IS MY FLAT!!
YOU PISS ME OFF! GET LOST!!


'KAY
'NOT WORRY ABOUT IT', IF YOU TOLD HIM TO
WAS THE KIND OF GUY WHO REALLY WOULD
IT'S OK...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
NAT-SUKI
HIROMU
I'M SORRY
AND SOMETIMES HE'D APOLOGIZE PROPERLY
.....
まわらない寿司

本トはあんましてほしかった
.....
IN MY THIRD YEAR, I GOT A CALL FROM A FRIEND ASKING ME TO HELP MAKE UP THE NUMBERS AT A PARTY
NOW ...?
I HAVE A FRIEND OVER
GUY !?
GIRL !?
A GUY
OK!! WE CAN MAKE THE NUMBERS !!
BRING HIM TOO!!
HUH !?
WE'RE AT SHIN-JUKU
NATSUKI
HUH?
WE'RE GOING OUT, GET YOUR STUFF!!
WHAT?
JUST FOR TODAY, C'MON
UH... OK
FROM THIS SIDE, INTRODUCE YOURSELF ...

WHY? I GOT DRAGGED HERE
NAT-SUKI, SMILE A BIT
ボソ
ボソ
NATSUKI DIDN'T LIKE THIS KIND OF NOISY PLACE
AND HE DIDN'T TRY TO HIDE IT
ヒソ
ヒソ
ヒソ
ヒソ
ヒソ
たよね〜
うん
SORRY, I NEED SOME AIR
THERE WERE A LOT OF MY CLASS-MATES
WHICH UNI. ARE YOU FROM?
SO?
UM... WHICH SCHOOL DO YOU GO TO?
AH, HE'S
A FRIEND OF TAKA-ZAWA-KUN
RIGHT
I WAS REALLY NERVOUS IN CASE HE DID SOMETHING
TO CAUSE A PROBLEM AT SCHOOL

SO ALL THE GUYS GOT IN ON IT
BECAUSE YOU TOLD ME TO!
TAKIZAWA!! WHY'D YOU BRING HIM!?
HE WENT TO GO SIT ALONE AND SMOKE
BUT ALL THE GIRLS EYES FOLLOWED HIM
WHAT DOES HE DO?
BUT IT DID MEAN THAT HE CAUSED MOST GUYS TO HAVE A BIT OF AN INFERIORITY COMPLEX
EXC-USE US
WHAT THE HELL!!
WHATEVER COMES UP I GUESS?
NATSUKI ONLY HAD TO TAKE A SINGLE STEP AND HE STOOD OUT
HIS 'BAD-BOY' LOOK
MADE HIM LOOK A LOT OLDER THAN US
OK!! MY PRIDE'S AT STAKE HERE!!
HE-HEY HEY! THEY'RE ALL GOING OVER THERE!!
SO? WHY DON'T YOU JOIN THEM?
CAN WE SIT WITH YOU?

I DON'T KNOW WHY GIRLS LIKED HIM SO MUCH
HE PAID NO ATTENTION TO THE GIRLS
UMM ...
WHAT KIND OF MOVIES DO YOU LIKE?
FROM THOSE LEFT AT THE TABLE
YOU'RE NOT GOING?
THERE WAS A GIRL WHO CAUGHT MY EYE
A JUNIOR COLLEGE FIRST YEAR
WELL, I'M COMFORTABLE HERE
WE KILLED SOME TIME TOGETHER
AND EXCHANGED DETAILS
RIGHT AFTER THAT, TROUBLE HAPPENED
YOU JUST CAME HERE TO BOAST, DIDN'T YOU!?
SHUT UP, BITCH! TRASH!!

TO PULL OUT A KNIFE
HE DIDN'T EVEN PAUSE
STO-
STOP NATSUKI !!
WHEN SEVERAL OF THE STUDENTS PRESSED IN ON HIM ...!
THAT MOM-ENT
NAT-SUKI ...
I NEVER KNEW HE HAD BEEN WALKING AROUND WITH SOMETHING LIKE THAT
THE AIR IN THAT NOISY PLACE
FROZE
HE WAS TOTALLY DIFFERENT TO ALL THOSE HOT-BLOODED SHOW-OFF KIDS

I WAS SO EMBAR-ASSED ...
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT!?
THEY WERE MY CLASSMATES!! ARE YOU TRYING TO DROP ME IN IT!?
WERE YOU JUST GOING TO DUKE IT OUT!?
THEIR PRIDE WAS HURT BECAUSE THEY WERE SNUBBED BY THOSE GIRLS!!
I WASN'T SERI-OUS
I WAS JUST SCA-RING THEM A BIT
SCARE THEM!? YOU SCARED THE WHOLE BAR!!
SO I WAS JUST SUPPOSED TO TAKE IT?
YES !!
!!
NA-NAT-SUKI ...
YOU'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR SOME-THING TO PICK ON ME ABOUT
THEY WERE THE ONES WHO HURT MY PRIDE FIRST, LAYING INTO ME LIKE THAT!!

WHY DON'T YOU EVER THINK MAYBE I'M THE VICTIM!?
DON'T YOU EVER THINK OF ME!?
BUT WHY ...
I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED AT THAT PARTY
BUT ONE OF MY FRIENDS WHO WAS THERE SAID THAT HE 'FEELS REALLY SORRY FOR NATSUKI'S POSITION'
COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING
I ...
キキョー!

AND WHEN I WAS 21 I BID GOODBYE TO MY CHERRY-BOY DAYS
Wai...um could you let go?
Hehe. It's a little embarrassing

THEN TODAY IS YOUR TREAT
SORRY, WORK RAN LONG...
TAKIZAWA-KUN ♡

I STARTED DATING NAKANO KAORI
I really wanna go
Let's go to Disneyland next time

THREE MONTHS AFTER THAT PARTY

HEY HIROMU!
NATSUKI CAME BACK

THIS TIME I WAS REALLY GRATEFUL FOR THAT CASUAL WAY HE JUST APPEARED
YOU CUT YOUR HAIR
YEAH, I GOT GIVEN SOME MONEY AND TOLD TO GO, SO I DID
HUH!? BY WHO?
A GIRL
SOON AFTER THAT
ガチャ
WELCOME BACK
HIROMU-KUN ♡
I WAS SERIOUS ABOUT KAORI, SO I GAVE HER A KEY
I COULD SEE NATSUKI WAITING BEHIND HER

BUT NATSUKI'S ATTITUDE PUT MY MIND TO REST. HE HAD NO INTEREST IN HER AT ALL
How really like that little-kid type?
I DIDN'T LIKE IT THAT THEY'D BECOME FRIENDS WITHOUT ME THERE
I DIDN'T WANT HER TO SEE THAT PATHETIC JEALOUSY, SO I KEPT MY MOUTH SHUT ..
!
IT WAS SO COLD, I COULDN'T JUST LEAVE HIM THERE
BUT
KAORI WAS SO CASUAL ABOUT IT
I... I THOUGHT... I COULD LET IT GO...
I'M... SO SORRY ...
I'M... SORRY ...
WHEN KAORI AND I HAD BEEN GOING OUT A YEAR, AND I WAS IN MY FOURTH YEAR OF UNI
BEC...USE... HE'S YOUR FRIEND... I TRIED SO HARD...
WE BROKE UP...
I CAN'T ... BE WITH YOU ANY-MORE...
BUT I... JUST KEPT FALLING...FOR HIM, UNTIL HE WAS...ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT...

WHY DIDN'T YOU SOCK HER ONE?
I CAN'T DO THAT TO A GIRL...
AND IT WASN'T HER FAULT
IT IS HER FAULT. I GAVE HER NOTHING AT ALL TO WORK WITH
...
WHAT THE HELL?
NATSUKI WAS ALWAYS POPULAR WITH GIRLS
I SUPPOSE THAT FEELING THAT HECOULD HAVE ANYONE I WANTED MADE ME FEEL THREATENED ...
THAT HE WON'T EVEN LOOK AT ME... HURTS SO MUCH... I CAN'T TAKE IT...

I GUESS IT MUST BE DIFFERENT FOR GUYS WITH CONFIDENCE
WHY... ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT IT LIKE THAT?

GET OUT...
YOU MAKE ME FEEL LIKE I'M NOTHING!!
YOU ALWAYS DO THINGS LIKE THAT!!
YOU...
WHAT?

I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!!
THOSE WERE ...
WORDS SPOKEN IN ANGER
I DIDN'T MEAN THEM
BUT I WILL NEVER
HELLO
TAKIZAWA SPEAKING ...
HELLO ?
プルルル
プルルル
プルルル
NEVER FORGET NATSUKI'S FACE IN THAT MOMENT ...
HIS BRIEF SMILE
.....
HIROMI ...I'M SORRY ...

.. NATSUKI ..
WHERE ARE YOU?
HE PHONED ME TO APOLO-GIZE
I WONDER WHY?
EVEN THOUGH HE DID NOTHING WRONG
O...H, IT'S OK... DON'T APOLOGIZE
PHONE-BOX, IN THE PARK NEARBY
WAIT, DON'T HANG UP ...
HEY, HIROKU ...
I REALLY DID ..WANT TO GO TO HIGH SCHOOL...
BUT MY OLD MAN...
I
THAT ...
WAS THE HAPPIEST TIME OF MY LIFE ...
REALLY ...
NATSUKI ...?
YOU CRYING ...?
NATSUKI ..
WE FOUGHT ...
SO... I. .
NATSUKI... THOSE MARKS WERE..
YOUR PARENTS WERE REALLY NICE TO ME, Y' KNOW?

HIROMU
HEY
WHEN I GRADUATED UNIVERSITY AND GOT A JOB, IT WAS HARDER TO KEEP IN TOUCH
WE WERE LUCKY TO MEET ONCE A MONTH
MORON.. LIKE I'D DO THAT
NATSUKI.. I REALIZED SOMETHING
HE WOULD ALWAYS SAY THAT WHEN WE HADN'T MET FOR A WHILE, LIKE IT WOULD SHORTEN THE TIME WE SPENT APART
WITH A CIGARETTE IN ONE HAND...
IS THIS TAKIZAWA HIROMU-SAN?
YES, WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
YOU NEVER SMOKED IN MY ROOM SINCE THAT TIME WHEN WE WERE 15..
I'M SORRY TO CALL YOU OUT OF THE BLUE. DO YOU KNOW AN OUMI NATSUKI?
THAT UNEXPECTED PHONE-CALL..
UM... MY NAME IS KUSUNOKI..
YES... WE'RE FRIENDS ...

NATSUKI ... HAS DIED
WAS TO LET ME KNOW THAT NATSUKI HAD PASSED AWAY
HE HAD SAVED A YOUNG CHILD FROM BEING DRAGGED INTO A STRANGE CAR
AND HAD HIT HIS HEAD HARD ON THE ASPHALT
HE'D SMILED AT THE CHILD'S GRATEFUL MOTHER
AND SEEMINGLY FINE, WENT HOME THE GIRL HE LIVED WITH COOKED WHILE HE READ THE MAGAZINES HE'D BOUGHT
AND... WHEN SHE CALLED TO HIM...
HE WAS ASLEEP
THOUGH SHE THOUGHT HE WAS A BIT TOO QUIET, SHE DIDN'T THINK UNTIL LATER
HE WOULD NEVER WAKE UP
HE DIED FROM A BRAIN HAEMORRHAGE

I THOUGHT IT WAS VERY LIKE HIM ...
SHE SAID..HE WAS BEING CREMATED TOMORROW ...
I'M SURE
MY HEAD.. HURTS ...
WE MET IN A HOST CLUB. HE HAD LIED ABOUT HIS AGE TO GET A JOB AS A HOST
NATSUKI.. WAS SO DIFFERENT ...
HER EYES WERE RED
THAT SHE'S SITTING BY HIM, CRYING ...
IT'S TOO SAD ...
TO LOOSE HIM LIKE THIS. .
IT'S ALL SO LIKE HIM, FROM THE HOST CLUB TO TSUBAME-SAN. .
HE SAID HE WAS FINE WITH THIS CHEAP APARTMENT .. AND HE HAD NO PHONE, ONLY A PAGER...
I WORRIED... THAT ONE DAY HE WOULD JUST DISSAPPEAR.. BUT HE STAYED ..
IT WAS SO STRANGE. HE MADE MY HEART BEAT, LIKE I WAS A YOUNG GIRL AGAIN ...
WHEN I ASKED IF HE WOULD...
BE MY LOVER, HE AGREED SO FREELY. HE NEVER ASKED FOR ANYTHING. .

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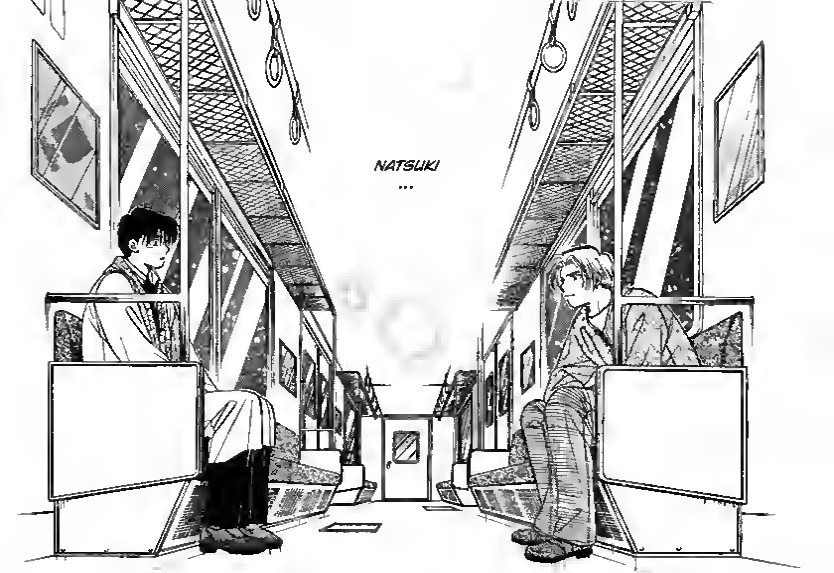
HEY
HIROMU
WHAT'S THAT
MISERABLE FACE FOR?


NATSUKI
...

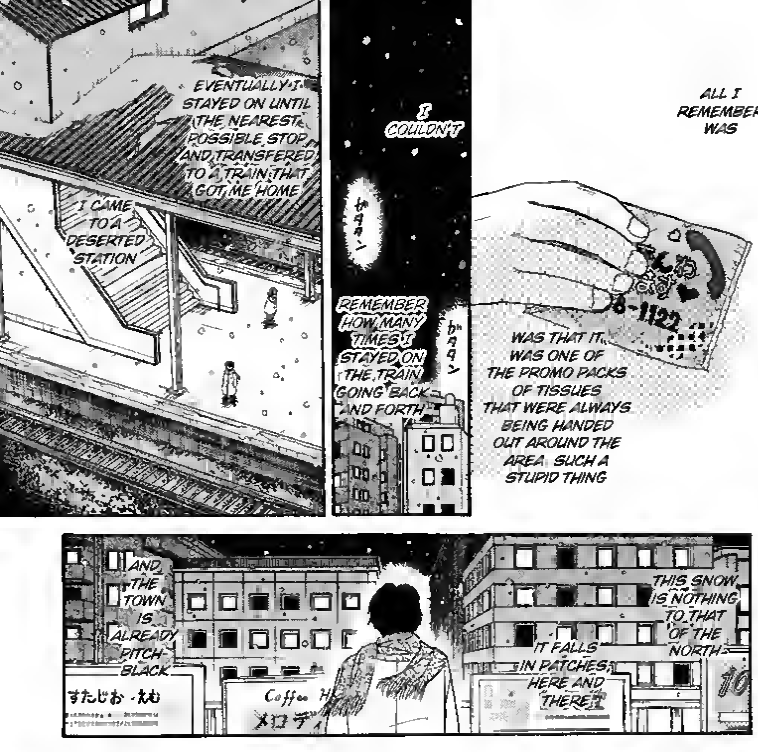
HEY, HIROMU
WE'RE FRIENDS, RIGHT?
YEAH ...
OF COURSE I WOULD
YOU'D HAVE BEEN PISSED IF I LEFT WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING
NATSUKI ... YOU ...

I'M GLAD ...
I DIDN'T WANT TO BE THE ONLY ONE WHO THOUGHT SO
.....
BEST FRIENDS

IN YOUR POCKET
THIS?
DON'T LAUGH, I'VE NEVER WRITTEN ONE BEFORE
AH, I'VE NOT READ IT YET
UM ...
'FROM ME TO YOU' ..
'FROM ME TO YOU'
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU FOR TALKING TO ME
THANK YOU FOR PLAYING WITH ME
THANK YOU FOR GETTING MAD AT ME
THANK YOU FOR SMILING AT ME
I'M BAD AT PUTTING THINGS INTO WORDS
SO I CAN'T SAY IT VERY WELL, BUT
FROM ME TO YOU

TO YOU, MY BEST FRIEND
NATSUKI?
THANK YOU

ALL OF A SUDDEN...
THE TEARS JUST CAME
AND THEY WOULDN'T STOP
ぽたっ
SILENTLY HANDED ME A TISSUE
SOMEONE WHO SAW ME
I SHOULD HAVE THANKED HER, BUT
AND I SILENTLY ACCEPTED
MY MIND WAS BLANK, I COULDN'T THINK
IT WASN'T EMBARRASSING
Sob
THOSE WHO WANT TO LAUGH CAN GO AHEAD
Sob
Sob


EVENTUALLY I STAYED ON UNTIL THE NEAREST POSSIBLE STOP AND TRANSFERED TO A TRAIN THAT GOT ME HOME
I CAME TO A DESERTED STATION
I COULDN'T
ガタン
REMEMBER HOW MANY TIMES I STAYED ON THE TRAIN GOING BACK AND FORTH
ALL I REMEMBER WAS
WAS THAT IT WAS ONE OF THE PROMO PACKS OF TISSUES THAT WERE ALWAYS BEING HANDED OUT AROUND THE AREA SUCH A STUPID THING
AND THE TOWN IS ALREADY PITCH BLACK
IT FALLS IN PATCHES HERE AND THERE
THIS SNOW IS NOTHING TO THAT OF THE NORTH
YOU'RE ALWAYS — RUNNING OFF AND LEAVING ME ALONE!!
YOU FUCKER !!
YOU'RE SUCH A FUCKING BASTARD !!
NAT-SUKI !!

REPLY TO WHAT I JUST SHOUTED WOULD DEFINITELY BE
HIS ...
.....
ずず？
せ？！
!!
MY DAY-TO-DAY LIFE
LIKE NATSUKI REALLY IMPROVED MY LIFE IN ANY SPECIAL WAY
小宮駅
KOMIYA STATION
WILL GO ON JUST AS IT DID BEFORE
サク
A HOLE HAS OPENED UP IN MY CHEST
BUT
NOTHING WILL CHANGE
OH WELL
IT'S NOT...
THAT'S JUST THE SORT OF GUY I AM

I'M

NATSUKI

サク

サク!

OUMI
NATSUKI
LET'S
BE FRIENDS,
HIROMU

僕から君へ／THE END

あとがき。

偶然死者が出て来て
何かを伝えるという形式の
漫画が続いてしまった。
今現在私の手持ちのネタの
中にそーゆーモノはない。
なぜ続け様に
発表する事に
なったのか
たぶんうまく
分からない。
そーゆー
年頃なのかなー？

漫画のキャラは、あくまでも
漫画のキャラだ。けれど不思議な
もので、「僕から君へ」の感想をくれた
読者の方々の殆どは、貴己の事を
好きだと言ってくれた。
ありがたい事です。

「僕から君へ」は私の中でずっとあった
話なのだが「花とゆめ」では難しい
だろうという事で「メロディ」に描かせて
貰いた。絵はヘタだが話は気に入っている。

THE★アテレコ

「ジョーイ・エリックの絵を描く」その1

3巻で描いた猫メルと猫ケイトはスペースがなかったので描けなかったのでスンマセン。奴ら今、超アツアツです。

「ジョーイ エリックの絵を描く」その2

おたく!?

ゲロヘタ…

私は「NY」のEpisode IVで、考えていたのに忘れてしまった事があるのです。それはメルの髪を伸ばすのを忘れてかったのです。きゃー!! イメージ画には描いてあるのに〜っ!! IVのScene 8では伸ばしましたよ。メル・髪長いの似合う様な気が…。そーよ、きっと監禁中はジョーイかメルの髪をカットしてあげていたんだわ。彼は発砲に散髪屋にもなるのだ。

ちょっとCM。
99年春頃「ニューヨーク・ニューヨーク2」のドラマCDが出ます。まだ未定なので詳しくは、その頃花とゆめ本誌もチェックしてみて下さい。HPでも宣伝すると思います

終わりです。最後まで読んでくれてありがとうございました。気が向きましたら感想でも下さいな。元気の源です。

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東京都千代田区神田淡路町
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花とゆめ編集部 亀川真里奈係 です。

それでは次回作でまたお会いしましょう。

Thanks for you

ホームページ開いてね 99年11月現在

http://www.hagawa.co.jpです。

(遠かった未来に見なった様に)

JASRAC 出 9812005-601

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ニューヨーク・ニューヨーク4／おわり

ニューヨーク・ニューヨーク　4

1998年11月30日　初版発行

著　者　羅川真里茂
© Marimo RAGAWA 1998
発行人　麻木正美
発行所　株式会社白泉社
〒101-8063
東京都千代田区神田淡路町2－2－2
電話　03(3526)8060(編集)
03(3526)8010(販売)
印刷・製本　鷹済堂印刷株式会社

HAKUSENSHA Printed in Japan
ISBN4 592 13344 7

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定価はカバーに表示してあります。

初出一覧

Episode Ⅳ
　Scene 7～8…1998年花とゆめ12～13号
Episode Ⅴ ……1998年花とゆめ14号
NewYork²あれやこれ// ……描き下ろし
僕から君へ……1997年メロディ11月号
あとがき……描き下ろし

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